Can HIV be eradicated?

Dr. David Ho opens Conference on Retroviruses and OIs.

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Art Market (Street)

Kico Govantes unveils his 'Art in Transit' along SF artery.

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Working boys

David Arquette and Lukas Haas are hustlers in 'johns.' see Arts section



PAY REALEPOI

Vol. 27 • No. 5 • 30 January 1997

Serving the Gay & Lesbian Community for more than 25 years

Leland House grand opening continues to generate controversy

More resignations, but also public support, in wake of archbishop's letter

by Cynthia Laird

ne week before the grand opening of its 45-bed AIDS housing facility in San Francisco, Catholic Charities remains at the center of controversy because of Archbishop William Levada's re-cent letter to Mayor Willie Brown seeking an exemption from the city's domestic partner benefit law.

The law, which takes effect June 1, re-The law, which takes effect June 1, requires businesses that contract with the city to provide benefits to domestic partners of employees if they provide those benefits to spouses. Levada contacted Brown December 20 for help in amending the law to exempt contractors that are churches or religiously-affiliated organizations. Otherwise, Levada wrote, the law would require contractors to adopt policies "which would be contrary to the church or organization's religious and

ethical tenets."

There has been no movement by either the Board of Supervisors or the mayor to the ordinance.

the Board of Supervisors or the mayor to propose an amendment to the ordinance. Brown has not commented publicly on the controversy, although sources have told the B.A.R. he is furious about the letter.

The timing couldn't have been worse for Levada's actions. It has taken a full seven years for Leland House to open, and by now the public has been invited to attend the facility's grand opening celebration this cility's grand opening celebration this Thursday, February 6.

Political leaders resign

Political leaders resign
Since news of Levada's letter was first published in the Bay Area Reporter January 9, at least eight people have announced their resignation from the Steering Committee planning the grand opening, and the Honorary Host Committee, made up largely of local community leaders, housing advocates, and healthcare professionals.

Earlier this month, two of the three cochairs organizing the celebration, San Francisco dentist Dr. Rudolf Isch and his partner Ron Hill, resigned in the midst of planning

Ron Hill, resigned in the midst of planning for next week's event. Supervisor Leslie Katz, who co-authored the ordinance, also re-

who co-authored the ordinance, also resigned from the steering committee, writing a strongly worded letter to Bob Nelson, public policy director for Catholic Charities.

"Either Catholic Charities is engaging in religious activities and thus cannot receive city funding," she pointed out, "or is a not-for-profit organization engaging in secular activities that must comply with the law."

Nelson has not competed on the issues

Nelson has not commented on the issues



Leland House at 141 Leland Avenue in San Francisco is slated to open next week

surrounding Levada's letter, citing Catholic Charities policies. However, he did empha-size the need Leland House will help meet in

The focus needs to be that it's an AIDS housing program we really need, not to let this become a political football. The agenda here is housing for PWAs," Nelson told the B.A.R.

NTFAP leaders launch

When the first residents move into Leland House in February, according to Nelson, the licensed residential care facility will son, the licensed residential cale factivity will provide housing and support services such as comprehensive case management, activities and therapeutic recreation, daily living activities, and money management. The facility will be staffed 24 hours a day.

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campaign to end Al by Cynthia Laird

alling it a "revolutionary idea," leaders of the National Task Force on AIDS Prevention (NTFAP) launched an ambitious campaign to end the AIDS epidemic by the year 2002, called "Recreating Our Future," on Thursday, January 23 in San Francisco.

The highlight of the evening was an appearance by NTFAP's founding executive director Reggie Williams, who gave a moving speech about the importance of the campaign to succeed.

paign to succeed.

The new national campaign was developed in response to the increasing HIV infection rates in people of color communities. Its mission is to "bring the resources to bear to end the AIDS epidemic among gay men of color." The goal is to cut in half the number of new HIV infections among gay men of color and effectively end the epidemic in these communities by 2002.

The campaign involves several compo-

The campaign involves several compo-

nents, including fundraising, integrating new research into community-based programs, conducting leadership training, conducting research and social marketing campaigns, and promoting public health policies that ensure gay and bisexual men of color are included as a target population for HIV

are included as a target population to The prevention.

Mayor Willie Brown made an appearance to help kick off the fundraising effort and said that if better outreach programs are devised around prevention, perhaps the NTFAP's goal could be met in less than five

"It takes a concentrated effort to change at," Brown said. An estimated 70 people attended the re

ception, according to Jose Cuellar, NTFAP special events manager.

Intolerable

Williams, who flew in from Amsterdam where he's lived for the past few years, said the NTFAP initiated "Recreating Our Fu-

page **27** ▶



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Sexy surveillance: Dennis Peron (on right in first image) with two patients outside former CBC headquarters at

Gay sex vid shocker: Lungren sends cannabis defendants porn

by Dennis Conkin

alifornia Attorney General Dan Lungren has said he didn't do it, the San Francisco Police Department says that it's investigating, and San Francisco's best-known pot dealer is hav-ing a wry laugh during a break in his prosecution that could cost him three and a half years in

In a genuine good guys-bad guys crime soap opera full of sex, drugs, and larger-than-life per-sonalities and issues, the Cannabis Buyer's Club (CBC) story took January 27, amidst revelations that in 1994 San Francisco police had surreptitiously recorded Dennis Peron's operation at 194 Church Street.

Church Street.

Over a gay sex video.
The question, to put it directly, is why would police have such a tape in their possession, anyway?
It's a real life mystery. Particularly mysterious is why the sur-

to the sexual imagery on the tape the CBC defendants received from Attorney General Dan Lun-

gren's office.

And all the players have their

own perspectives.

"It's just disgusting. We were all just shocked, here in the office. an just shocked, there in the office. It went from a picture of the club to two men having sex. I think it was really in poor taste. I'm not sure what kind of message the Attorney General was sending us, Peron told the Bay Area Reporter.

No message at all, said a cor-dial Steve Telliano, spokesman for the Attorney General's Office. AG investigators always use fresh videotapes for their work, he said.

"Apparently, San Francisco re-cycles its old evidence video-tapes," Telliano said.

The gay sex video portion of the tape is a classic mid-70s porno commercial video of two average men on a double had in verage men on a double bed in a hotel room – replete with paint-embossed wall molding – mastur-bating and having oral and anal

Although one of the adult men is wearing a metal cockring, it is not a fetish or buff-guy sex toy video. The video's soundtrack is bad '70s syntho-tech, disco-poppers-generic sex tape muzak

Hot buttered cop porn

In a development sure to disappoint CBC supporters with a grudge against Sergeant Joe Bannon, the openly gay investigating officer on the case, there "are indications" that Bannon may not have known about the tape, according to Deputy San Francisco Police Chief John Willett.

The evidence was transferred onto VHS videotape from footage taken by what Telliano would only call "an investigative camera" carried in an undercover officer's

The tape is one of a thousand the defendants received in the legal "discovery" process, including at least one tape of aerial surveillance from a Cessna 1825 sin-

gle engine Skyplane.

The surveillance recorded on the porn tape was during a time that critics claim various memthat critics claim various members of the police – ranging from Sergeant Bannon to Captain Greg Corrales to the ever-popular "Old Boys Network" – conspired "to get" Peron and shut down the drug den.

The reasons for the crackdown vary from truly paranoid to plausible, depending on who you talk to and how long they've lived in San Francisco.

San Francisco.

The historical fact, though, re-The historical fact, though, remains that the cops first tried unsuccessfully to interest SF District Attorney Arlo Smith, and then the federal Drug Enforcement Agency, in the case before they finally found a customer with California Attorney General Dan Lunggere.

Lungren.
"The DEA decided not to prosecute. The state picked up the case," Willett said.
Willett, meanwhile, has ques-

tions of his own about the Only-In-San Francisco development. Mas the tape originally of evidence seized in another local case

—"at Narcotics branch" for example – and then recycled?

Only time and some investigation will tell. ▼

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PlanetOut gets gayer than ever online

by Dennis Conkin

wo months after he was kicked off the board of the gay and lesbian online service that he founded last year, Tom Rielly has been elected president and Chief Operating Officer of PlanetOut.

Rielly assumed the post Wednesday, January 29, after for-mer CEO Jon Huggett's "amicable departure" from the helm of the online service, according to spokesman Michael Kaminer.

With the largest distribution of any queer Internet service, Planet Out (PNO) reaches an audience out (PNO) featness an authence of 320,000 monthly visitors, and is available on five distribution channels, including the World Wide Web, American Online, Yahoo, Microsoft Network, and

Netscape.
Rielly's return to a leadership position follows several months of behind-the-scenes drama over the management and philosophical direction of the popular online

Among Huggett's controversial management actions were the termination of staffer Karen Wickre the day before Thanksgiving, and a controversial management decision by Huggett and the board to "de-queer" the front page of the computer site by deleting "bisexual and transgender" from the service's identification tagline. The widely criticized deletion epitomized the breach between PNO staff and management over the company's direction.

PNO vice president of market-



Tom Rielly and Karen Wickre.

ing and sales Harry Taylor also resigned with Huggett in the company reorganization.

Huggett could not be reached for comment at B.A.R. press time.

"There was a clash of cultures and personalities," Rielly said. "It was resolved quite amicably. There was a difficult period, but the company came through it rather well. It's a huge weight off the staff's shoulders."

Rielly said the restructuring is a return to the company's founding vision as "an online community of, by, and for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people and their families and friends."

"We've put the eye back on the customer and what she wants," Rielly said. "We've added a leather chat room, and are adding bi and transgender chat rooms on AOL.

Personals are coming soon."

Also departing from the board with Huggett is venture capitalist Mike Morris of Sequoia Capital,

which invested \$2.7 million into PNO start-up operations, Rielly

said.
Rielly and the company will buy out Sequoia's investment in PNO, and America Online also retains a minority stake in the firm. "We have money in the bank, and we don't need venture capital for a long time," Rielly said.
PlanetOut includes four key sections: People, including chat rooms and message boards; Net Queery, a gay Internet directory; Queery, a gay Internet directory; PopcornQ, the acclaimed film and video site; and NewsPlanet, origi-nal gay and lesbian news. PlanetOut, Net Queery, and Popcorn Q received two Platinum

Popcorn Q received two Figurians
awards and a Gold award from
Netguide magazine for excellence
in websites. The online service has
also been nominated for a Webby
Award by Web magazine.



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Gay youth survey has good and bad news

by Dennis Conkin

IV infection rates among young San Francisco gay men dropped nearly three percent during the two-year period ending in 1995, according to the results of a three-county epidemiological survey released on Wednesday, January 22.

The drop in the rate of infections from 11 percent in 1993 to 8.1 percent in 1995 was noted in the three-county Young Men's Survey III conducted by the Centers For Disease Control and county health departments in San

county health departments in San

Francisco, Alameda, and Santa Clara counties.
Dr. Willis McFarland of the San Francisco Department of Health's AIDS Office attributed the drop to effective targeting of HIV prevention efforts to young gay men by community-based organizations and the Department of Health.
Despite the drop the study in

of Health.

Despite the drop, the study indicated that two percent of young San Francisco gay men in the survey who were between 15-17 years of age already were infected with HIV.

The study also warned that the figures indicate that AIDS may be

becoming endemic rather than epidemic in San Francisco – and that HIV infection levels could stabilize at or close to their cur-

stabilize at or close to their current rates.

"This would be bad news. The grim scenario of a stable HIV prevalence means that people are dying of AIDS as fast as others are infected with HIV," he said.

An estimated 1 in 30 San Francisco residents currently suffers from HIV infection.

McFarland's concern was underscored by University of California Center For AIDS Prevention Studies director Dr. Tom Coates, who told the Bay Area Reporter that "it would be unfortunate" if the need for HIV prevention services were lost "in the hallelujahs about triple combination lelujahs about triple combination therapies."

Gay men still hardest hit

In the study, almost 1,300 men In the study, almost 1,300 men between the ages of 15-22 frequenting gay-identified venues were invited to take a blood test for HIV infection, Hepatitis B infection, and syphilis and to participate in a face-to-face interview that recorded relevant demographic data and took medical, sexual, and drug use histories, as well as an assessment of the participate and a session of the participate and the participate in the participat

well as an assessment of the par-ticipants' HIV-related knowledge, attitudes, and practices. More than 850 (69 percent) of the young men agreed to partici-pate, 750 of whom (88 percent) vere self-identified gay or report-

sex with men.
The blood tests found that 5.8 percent of the young men in three

Back Although young MSMs have on bey may not yet have experien « HIV prevention intervention

Dr. Willis McFarland (on podium at left): "Men who have sex with men in San Francisco continue to be at high risk for HIV infection."

counties tested HIV-positive, that 12.4 percent had evidence of hepatitis B infection, and that less than one percent tested positive for syphilis, according to the survey results.

HIV seroprevalency rates were five percent in Alameda County

tive percent in Alameda County and 4.3 percent in Santa Clara among the young men surveyed.

According to McFarland, although HIV infection is becoming increasingly a problem among women and minorities, "the vast majority of HIV infections in the U.S. have occurred and continue to occur in men who have see to occur in men who have sex

than in the San Francisco Bay Area," McFarland said at the pre-sentation of the survey findings. sentation of the survey findings. "Despite historically unprecedented community-wide changes toward safer sex, men who have sex with men in San Francisco continue to be at high risk for HIV infection."

Why are blacks susceptible?

A statistical analysis also iden-tified risk markers for HIV infec-tion correlated from the responses of infected men in the survey.

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Leal to speak to gay fed employees Wednesday

by Cynthia Laird

acific Federal GLOBE, an umbrella organization rep-resenting gay, lesbian, bisex-ual, and transgender federal em-

ual, and transgender federal employees and employee organizations on the west coast of the United States, is having its first meeting of the year this Wednesday, February 5 in San Francisco.

Supervisor Susan Leal will be the guest speaker, said Don "Wolf" Tombe, president of the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) Pacific Rim region GLOBE chapter. Leal will discuss past efforts to bring national gay and lesbian community leaders and lesbian community leaders into the White House, as well as ways federal employees who are gay or lesbian can begin network-ing with their local city and county counterparts.
Local sponsoring GLOBE



Supervisor Susan Leal.

chapters are made up of queer employees of many of the nation's largest federal agencies. They include the GSA, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Na-

U.S. Department of Education.

Last August, when the umbrel-Tombe said the group's mission is to foster unity and understanding among employees of all sexual orientations through education

regarding issues associated with queer federal employees.

Next week's meeting is open to all gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender federal employees and their friends.

The meeting will be held at the Philip Burton Federal Building, located at 450 Golden Gate Avenue, beginning at 6:30 p.m. A federal employee ID card is required to gain access to the building. After 6 p.m. use the security access on Turk Street. For more information, call Tombe at (415) 522-2854.

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Marin AIDS Project seeks HIV+ people for speakers bureau, training this weekend

by Cynthia Laird

he Marin AIDS Project is recruiting HIV-positive people to get involved in its speakers bureau, which currently reaches 7,500 people a year. There will be a training session for interested people on Saturday and Sunday, February 1-2, in San Rafael.

Robert Rosen of the Marin AIDS Project told the B.A.R. that the organization's speakers bureau completes between 200 and 300 presentations a year, reaching thousands of Marin County residents, including children.

dents, including children.

"We're in nearly every school,"

Rosen said, adding people also make presentations to businesses

and social service agencies.

People who have HIV are effective prevention educators because they can help others recog-nize their risk for HIV infection and can give people a personal, individual connection to the epidemic, Rosen explained. Telling

demic, Rosen explained. Telling one's personal story is both em-powering and therapeutic. Trainings like the one this weekend are held periodically by the agency. Interested people do not have to live in Marin County, Poren paid.

Rosen said.

Pre-registration is required and space is limited. ▼

Saturday's session is from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Sunday's is from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. To sign up or for more info, call Rosen at (415) 457-2487.

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EDITOR Mike Salinas

ARTS EDITOR

POLITICAL EDITOR

ASSISTANT EDITORS Roberto Friedman Patrick Hoctel Cynthia Laird

INTERN Claudia Figueroa

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Diannne Aaronson • Rene M. Astudillo
Erin Blackwell • John Blanco • Jaime Cader
Philip Campbell • Jesse Costello-Good
Jim Coughenour • M.R. Covino
Marianne Dresser • Beth Elliott • Chad Jones
Liz Highleyman • Robert Julian • John F. Karr
Jeffery Kennedy • Matthew Kennedy
LA. Kisselman • Karl Bruce Knapper
Jennifer Maerz • Daniel Mangin • Mr. Marcus
Jerry Metzker Gary Morris • Karen Ocamb
Deborah Peffer • Jim Provenzano • Mary Richards
Adrian Roberts • Bob Roehr • Shan Schwartz
Doug Seto • Mary Shaw • Robin Sweeney
Rick Thoman • Paul Thomason
Stephanie von Buchau • Dick Walters

ART DIRECTION & DESIGN

AD PRODUCTION & LAYOUT

PHOTOGRAPHERS Jane Philomen Cleland Darlene/Photo Graphics Gregory H. Fleischer Marc Geller Rick Gerharter Phil Migilarese, Jr.

EDITORIAL CARTOONIST

GENERAL MANAGER Michael M. Yamashita

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT Chip Murray

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

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DISTRIBUTION Andy McConnell

NATIONAL SALES REPRESENTATIVE

LEGAL COUNSEL Thomas E. Horn, Esq.

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Tampa tantrum

he conventional wisdom is that those who forget the past are condemned to repeat it. That's a scary thought, all repeat it. That's a scary thought, all right, but sometimes there is reason to fear the opposite. A case in point: that incident 20 years ago this week, when a faded exnear-beauty-queen in Florida tried to revive her sagging career by publicly challenging the job security of gay and lesbian teachers. Her name, of course, is Anita Bryant. Although she failed in her attempt, for a time she was the enemy of nearly eyery home.

she was the enemy of nearly every homo-sexual in America – we say *nearly* because that doesn't include closeted women and men, some of whom are married to faded ex-near-beauty-queens. Along the way, she lost the tattered remnants of whatever career she had maintained to that point, trad-ed semi-fame for notoriety, and got a cream pie in the face while talking to the press in Des Moines, Iowa, of all places; a little while later she lost her husband (he didn't die, he just left) in circumstances that she didn't want to talk about.

want to talk about.

More to the point, as Bryant's situation kept worsening, the plight of gays and lesbians improved as we learned about boycotts, political organizing, sticking together, and the value of coming out. In fact, she gave the biggest boost to our community the world had ever seen.

This is a valuable history lesson, boys and girls. Which is why we say if we forget the past and its hard-won lessons we are doomed not to repeat it.

This week, as if in a morbid commemoration of Anita's intolerance, another Florida bigot fired another salvo at us. A state senator by the name of John Grant aimed at gay students, rather than teachers, by at-

senator by the name of John Grant aimed at gay students, rather than teachers, by attempting to block funds going to a small Tampa college's gay and lesbian student organization. He delivered the threat after he learned that openly gay Olympic™ gold medalist Greg Louganis was scheduled to speak on campus

medalist Greg Louganis was scheduled to speak on campus. Louganis, fortunately, is not keeping quiet about the affront. His spokesperson, Maggi Stern, immediately fired back at the "moral decadence" of a legislator who cor-rupts a position of power by "allowing his bias, bigotry, and propensity for threats and

blackmail" to shape his views on public policy. Go on, girl!

icy. Go on, girl!

In case you think Stern wasn't stern enough in her assessment, you can call Grant at [813] 975-6658; e-mail grantj@leg.mail.ufl.edu; or write to 610 Waters Avenue, Suite A, Tampa FL 36004. Yes, it is a long way from the sacred intersection of Castro and 18th, but the issue should be deep within the hearts of anyone who reads this paper.

who reads this paper.

Do not forget the lessons of the past. Celebrate the anniversary of Anita Bryant's failed crusade by taking an interest in what's happening this week in Florida.

And if anyone is cynical enough to believe that such things don't matter, it is worth pointing out that a few hundred miles north of Grant's tiny little world, Cobb County, Georgia has killed its notorious anti-gay resolution. Two years ago religious funda mentalists managed to get the ugly resolution through the county commission, but since then the majority of residents polled

for the Atlanta Journal and Constitution said they felt it was an inappropriate action of those commission members and that it has

those commission infentiors and that it had a negative impact on their county.

Cobb County companies, no doubt bolstered by the public opinion expressed, either released statements opposing the resolution (Microsoft, Dupont); moved business out of the county (the fa-

business out of the county (the famous Tour Dupont bicycle race, the Olympic™ Torch); ignored the resolution (Home Depot); or enacted policies in direct opposition to it (IBM, Microsoft, and, ironically, the Cobb County Galleria Convention Complex and the Cobb Chamber of Commerce).

Finally, the conservatives

Finally, the conservatives lost in the face of so much opposition. The resolution is dead.

Dostinon: The resolution is dead.

Come out, come out, wherever you are.

All this in Newt Gingrich's backyard.

So you see we can win, even with enormous opposition out there. We will win. But be prepared for a long haul: it'll take a lot of time, a lot of effort, and maybe even a few more cream pies.



Report the other epidemic: substance abuse deaths

by Mike Varady

his will require the cooperation of everyone who reports something for the B.A.R. obituaries section. I was happy to see how short it was in a recent issue, but I've long felt that we should be completely honest about some severe causes of death in our community that never get es of death in our community that never get mentioned, yet are often the direct reasons for catching AIDS, which is always men-tioned; these people are martyrs, we feel, and those AIDS mentions helped me (by seeing how often they occurred, the tragedy was brought even closer) to avoid situations in which I might contract the disease. Per-haps beliefung the message home about how haps bringing the message home about how many of us really die, even as an indirect cause, might help some to think about their

actions as well.

How about the unvarnished truth about our people's deaths, not from martyrdom, but from alcoholism and drug use, in obit-

There are times such deaths are the di-There are times such deaths are the direct reasons, and times that they can be deduced: Having a driving accident, or from smoke inhalation from smoking in bed, passing out, and lighting the mattress. I've read several times that two out of three alkies and druggies suffer bi-polar or uni-polar syndromes, and we know that the

gay community's drug and alcoholic rate is one in three. Between 1 in 3, then 2 in 3, we see there are serious, unacknowledged men-tal, physical, and emotional health problem

among our people. Going through withdrawals, depressives have a higher rate of suicides and attempts. Also, clearly we're having considerably more of those car accidents that result in death or turn someone into a vegetable – the drunk drivers, their passengers, or victims they hit – than the

national average.

I'm a recovering alcoholic and drug user, a depressive who used those products for my magic med-icine when I should have searched out better help and not mixed them with the booze and the grass and amphetamines, and one who's had my share of car accidents. When I tended bar,

how often I (or my customers) said, "Why don't

tomers) said, "Why don't they stop arresting anyone who hasn't had an accident – I didn't harm anyone. They should go after the real criminals!"

Thank God I never harmed anyone except myself when I wrapped my car around a light pole or, forgetting to put on my brakes, flipped over a deep embankment upside down into my next-door neighbor's house!

I am not alone in my dramatic accidents (and there were more), not by a long shot. (and there were more), not by a long shot. It's only by random chance that I've succeeded in living so long, without harming anyone physically – I certainly harmed people, especially my family, emotionally. I was lucky to have stopped (it took 21 years of trying before I finally made it), and I've seen way more deaths from these problems than I have from AIDS – which, I repeat, is often caused by the diminished responsibilities felt toward oneself or partner or previous partners when under the influence(s).

Or, there's the humiliation I felt when I went to my regular liquor store – by this time I'd graduated to the cheapest wine with the highest percentage of alcohol – with my jar of pennies, all the money I had left until my next disability check, and the bastards count-

by penny, one by one. The folks waiting made me blush.

How about the award-winning career in journalism,

Guest Opinion

pinion

prize-winning in fiction, prize-winning in fiction, that I ruined through drinking? Well, not actually ruined; it's taken 20 years, but I'm starting to be published again. The only reason why all this may seem worse than most drug and alcohol experiences is because I've concentrated incidents that took years to happen into a few hundred. that took years to happen into a few hundred words. Certainly, when I tended bar, it was the guy sitting at the end of the bar who drank more than I did, or got into more trouble than I was, who was the alcoholic—

trouble than I was, who was the alcoholic—no way was it me!

I feel we've glossed over this unpleasant, largest cause of deaths for our people. An occasional article on the problem is not enough, and most readers who are drinking and using will skip over it—and I believe our media, and those who report deaths to it, have the responsibility to our community to reveal this and warn others.

Resignations fall-out

Unfortunately, I find it necessary to respond to your article dated January 16, 1997 entitled "Fall-out from Archbishop's letter: Co-chairs, supervisor resign

from Archbishop's letter: Co-chairs, supervisor resign from Leland House committee."

Dr. Isch and his partner Ron Hill are, of course, free to express whatever displeasure they like with the Archbishop's letter. They, however, are two professional, well-accomplished gay men. The majority of clients using Leland House will be disenfiranchised lower-income men in the later stages of HIV/AIDS, unlike Dr. Isch and Ron Hill.

While I personally do not agree with the Bishop's

unlike Dr. Isch and Ron Hill.

While I personally do not agree with the Bishop's request for an exemption to the new domestic partner law, I, as someone who has AIDS, am able to look at the much larger picture. That picture, in case you needed glasses, is housing for people who are HIV-affected. The Bishop only asked to be excluded from something that conflicts with the general (there are gay Catholics) [laws] of the Catholic Church.

Tom Nolan, Executive Director of Project Open Hand, so accurately stated, "Housing is the greater issue," and he is satisfied that potential clients do not have to adhere to the beliefs of the Catholic Church to receive benefits.

receive benefits.

Housing has been identified as the second most necessary component of AIDS management, even before food.

As a former client of Catholic Charities, I can say

As a former client of Catholic Charities, I can say it has come through for me on some very necessary occasions and empowered me to become what I consider a relatively successful person in the field of telecommunications. This was done in a friendly and efficient [way], without me having to jump through hoops to receive services. Nor did I have to adhere to the beliefs of Catholic Charities or the Catholic Church.

Mailstrom With the discovery of protease inhibitors and the like, we are living longer, more productive lives. This makes HIV care more challenging. We need a combination of organizations that can provide direct services, that are cost-effective

that can provide direct services, that are cost-effective without the unnecessary delay invented by organizations like Social Security and Disability.

I tip my hat to Catholic Charities. They are indeed one of the "thousand points of light."

Thank you, Catholic Charities. Keep up the good work: food baskets, Most Holy Redeemer AIDS support group, rental assistance, drug assistance.

Dwayne Brown San Francisco

Papal logic

It is heartening to witness the integrity of Super-visor Katz and Messrs. Hill and Isch in resigning from the Leland House festivities due to Archbishop Leva-

the Leland House festivities due to Archbishop Levada's insistence that churches be exempt from our domestic partner benefit law.

The archbishop's position is that everyone is subject to the laws against discrimination except those who already discriminate. It's easy to see how Levada became an archbishop — with his kind of logic he may soon be a candidate for pope.

Jim Hicks San Francisco

Worst possible face

Leslie Katz and Susan Leal should be roundly con-demned for voting against the study to take over PG&E's electrical facilities. At a time when major fed-eral budget cuts are looming, new funding sources are desperately needed for AIDS, MUNI, housing, jobs.

The list goes on and on.

Katz and Leal's vote is starkly against the best interests of the civil treams that they see their role on the board as protectors of wealthy special interests at the expense of those who this economic system has dumped on. They pretend obliviousness to the initial study's showing that a takeover would not only earn the city revenue, but that our electric bills would be

As the new chair of the supervisors' Finance Committee, Leal shows tremendous incomprehension about her role. If the solutions to our problems are not to be shared by those who hold the financial resources, then is it her intent to cut services or to raise

taxes?

As for Katz, it's worse. She promised before the election to vote for the study. She also promised to vote for the restrictions on landlord move-ins. This is called lying. It seems to be Katz's latest career option. This slumlord-defending lawyer is our community's worst possible face to present to the public. It's time she and Leal both stated what in the fuck they think they're doing, who they think they represent, and how they plan to deal with the real issues that are making life increasingly miserable for those of us who live here.

Alan Collins San Francisco

Repeal prohibition

[The following was sent to Mayor Willie Brown:]
I am writing to draw your attention to the issue of public vs. private space in a public establishment. The Department of Public Health has recently made an Department of Public Health has recently made an issue of this, by declaring that when gay men congregate in a public space, they are denied the right to privacy; they become a public nuisance? This restriction, interestingly enough, is not applied to heterosexuals; there are any number of saunas and hot tubs in San Francisco that are rentable behind private, locked doors. It is only gay men's sex lives that are considered a 'public nuisance.' As the person who championed the repeal of California's sodomy law, I should think you would be in the forefront of the opposition think you would be in the forefront of the opposition

to this policy.

The DPH has, with the best of intentions, created The DPH has, with the best of intentions, created the worst of all possible situations. They have insisted that we have no right to privacy; hence, men are less likely to get to know each other, to become intimate, to 'care' for each other. They have denied that we are capable of personal responsibility, and declared that we need a monitor to watch over us. Not only is this reminiscent of a police state — government controlling our sex lives, for crying out loud!—but it runs directly counter to every law of human psychology. These sorts of punitive measures are not

but it runs directly counter to every law of human psychology. These sorts of punitive measures are not the way to change behavior.

The regulations that were proposed by the DPH for sex club operation in November were a mistake.

Now it is time for the department to acknowledge that this whole policy of prohibition was a mistake, too, and allow private businesses and individuals to decide for themselves what behaviors they will for themselves what behaviors they will or won't allow. This, believe it or not, is or won't allow. 1110. The American Way.

Scott O'Hara

Easy target

Though I never used the services of the San Francisco Cannabis [Buyers] Club, or even entered the club's premises, I have to disagree with the official assessment of the operation as cover for a criminal sessment of the operation as cover for a criminal scam. A number of people with AIDS – visitors to the club – who know that I like an occasional sociable take, urged me to go to the club and enjoy myself there. I do not, however, fall within the parameters required for the medical use of marijuana. My rare inhalations have never been anything but celebrations of myself, and I considered it indecent to exploit a courageous act of civil disobedience for my own amusement.

amusement.

I feared, too, that the particular PWAs who wanted me to turn on using club grass, and who have long criminal records, might be trying to set me up, or use me to set up the club. Certainly the club provided a cheap and easy target for any sleazeball politician who wanted to ingratiate himself to the puritanical yahoos who were about to congeal in San Diego.

I nevertheless see no reason to smear Dennis Peron and the other managers of the club as drug.

I nevertheless see no reason to smear Dennis Peron and the other managers of the club as drug dealers, though perhaps a bit craftier than most. They are guilty of nothing more sinister than flakiness (a failing that police and addicts alike too readily mistake for criminal genius). They were not, in short, the kind of leaders the Cannabis Club needed (but who else was there?). The real traitors to the community, however, are not gay cops who were just doing a job without which no act of civil disobedience is possible, but the self-indulgent users who urged others to indulge themselves without regard to the consequences for Peron or for people who sorely need marijuana to help alleviate their symptoms and the side-effects of powerful prescription drugs. Civil disside-effects of powerful prescription drugs. Civil dis-obedience has a long and honorable history as an in-strument to change unpopular and unjust laws, not as a ruse to evade them.

> Alex MacDonald San Francisco

Attention potheads!

Attention potheads!

I stand by my friend Joe Bannon and his selfless, courageous attempt to rid San Francisco of scum like David Smith, Dennis Peron and any others who believe drugs are the answer. People (and I use that term loosely) like Mr. Smith are so blinded by their own drug abuse, that they fail to understand this despicable use of people living with HIV disease. How dare CBC and its stoner customers allow their self-denial, selfishness and addiction spoil our community. Once again the HIV/gay community has lost its credibility to allow this exploitation to continue. Joe Bannon should be praised and not chastised for doing the right thing. right thing.

> Gilbert B. Telles Almogordo, New Mexico

[The editor responds: Who's next? The "scum" who suck dick? The "scum" who are waiting for a messiah other than Christ? Communist "scum," trade-unionist "scum," or what?]





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Mean-spirited agit-prop

Mean-spirited agit-prop

I was appalled by your decision to illustrate Cynthia Laird's report on recent criticism of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation with a dehumanizing and grossly disfigured picture of Pat Christen (January 2), You failed even to reference the source — this picture has been used by ACT UP/SF as part of an ongoing campaign to discredit SFAF and to intimidate its Executive Director; it served as the concept behind ACT UP/SF's physical assault on Pat during a recent SFAF presentation at the Women's Building. To indirectly legitimize thug violence by giving such prominent placement to an unrelated piece of mean-spirited agit-prop is unworthy of a community-based newspaper. Such an editorial choice demeans the entire community, and undermines any claims you might make to serious journalism.

I was angry and ashamed to see such a distorted picture of Pat's face, accompanied by an enlargement of Tom Calvanese's decontextualized comment about the AIDS service industry, "We've created a monster." Talk about tabloid journalism! Without taking any responsibility for your editorial position, the B.A.R. reduces thoughtful criticism of a whole network of AIDS service organizations to the character assassination of one woman, implying that she's a monster. When I was a member of ACT UP/SF, we would have condemned such sensationalistic garbage as a textbook example of misogyny in the gay community. Are gay men really so threatened by women who are strong, smart, and (by our standards) powerful, or do we just save our bilious invective for those who don't the stream of the property of

gay men really so threatened by women who are strong, smart, and (by our standards) powerful, or do we just save our bilious invective for those who don't identify as queer? In either case, it's nearly impossible to imagine such a vicious smear campaign being sus-tained (or as in this case promoted) against a gay male executive on the front pages of a paper that purports to serve our community.

For the record, I've known Pat Christen for more then seven years. From my vantage point as a gay activist with AIDS, Pat is anything but a monster. As a nationally respected leader in the fight against AIDS, Pat has offered more than ten years of her life in services. Pat has offered more than ten years of her life in service to San Francisco PWAs, providing brilliant, and at times, courageous leadership which has directly improved conditions for many of us living with HIV. She has spent her entire professional career at SFAF, growing with the organization, expanding its financial base, maintaining its moral center, and leading it to its present position as an unparalleled provider of services to people living with HIV, their families and friends. Pat's also been generous to other local activists, providing guidance, support and encouragement - as well as resources for travel, meeting space for community organizing, and access to fundraising opportunities. Along with many of my friends and colleagues, I'm proud of the contributions SFAF makes to the community, and I'm grateful for the singular role Pat plays in this organization's mission.

Pat Christen is a bona fide hero, and one hell of a nice person to boot. Rather than trashing her, we

racconfisten is a bona fide hero, and one fell of a nice person to boot. Rather than trashing her, we should think about throwing her a parade. She cer-tainly deserves better than the sleazy treatment your paper gave her two weeks back.

Fric C. Ciasullo

Crass sensationalism

Crass sensationalism

I was deeply disturbed by the B.A.R.'s sensationalized approach to an important community issue. The B.A.R. published two balanced and thoughtful articles (one an interview with me) addressing the operations of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation. The articles themselves presented both the criticisms of the foundation as well as accurate representations of the finances and services provided.

I object to the editorial decision to reprint a photograph of Pat Christen depicted as a cat and to enhance it with a quote, taken out of context, insinuating that she is a monster. This is crass sensationalism at its worst, in addition to being unfair to an individ-

ing that she is a monster. This is crass sensationalism at its worst, in addition to being unfair to an individual who has devoted at least the last 11 years of her life to ending the epidemic and the suffering caused by AIDS. I find it ironic that just above, on the masthead, it states that the B.A.R. serves the Lesbian and Gay Community. How does that particular photo and headline serve us? It doesn't. Instead, it should make us all ashamed that we as a community are willing to us all ashamed in the was a community are willing gracept a newspaper that employs the standards of tabloid journalism as our leading source of information. If the B.A.R. is trying to establish any journalistic credibility, this sensational approach will not help.

The question of how AIDS services should change

because of recent advances in treatment deserves thoughtful attention and lively debate. By using such misleading headlines, the *B.A.R.* belittles this important issue. Instead of promoting constructive community discourse, the headline and photograph are

incendiary.

This is a critical time in the AIDS epidemic. Of course, we should be asking tough questions about services, organizations and funding. Let's do that, rather than attacking individuals and single agencies.

Paul Wisotzky San Francisco

Not so pat

I write in response to the article entitled "Pat An-I write in response to the article entitled "Pat Answers" run several weeks ago in your paper. Dennis Conkin's reporting was fair and unbiased, but the editorial "comments" made by the title of the article and the re-running of the "fat cat" cartoon were too much. First, I don't believe that "pat" answers were given by Paul Wisotzky, the SFAF Board President. I know him to be a committed activist, as was reflected in the article. He deserves better treatment than to be simply dismissed

know him to be a committed activist, as was reflected in the article. He deserves better treatment than to be simply dismissed.

Second, enough of the "fat cat" picture already. For me it has come to symbolize the dumping of cat feces over a woman's head. I don't know any other name for that kind of act but misogyny. Personally, I am ashamed that anyone would receive that kind of treatment – for any reason. To paraphrase Angela Davis: the fact that we have suffered pain and oppression is not a legitimate reason for inflicting it on others. Further, I happen to believe that Pat Christen's leadership has been an asset to San Francisco's various communities in the fight against HIV/AIDS, and I know that I am not alone in that belief.

I would hope this paper would shine the same critical light on other sectors of the activist community. That the AIDS services in this town are duplicative and hard to navigate has been a truism for too many years. But the call to simply reduce the size of agencies without careful planning is neither strategic nor well thought out. Protease Inhibitors or no Protease Inhibitors, the HIV epidemic still rages on and is continually spreading in parts of our communities. Would it be too institutionally-oriented to call for a strategic plan before everyone gets sent home?

Finally, it has become fashionable to suggest that those who work at AIDS agencies are simply "uncaring bureaucrats," while those who really care about people are still marching in the streets. I do not believe this false division is factual or helpful. Most of the people I know who work in AIDS agencies care deeply. This does not guarantee that there won't be mistakes, but having a good heart is a good start.

The PI perspective

Re: "Is it time for the SF AIDS Foundation to downsize?" and Dennis Conkin's interview with SFAF board president Paul Wisotzky. The content of both the article and the related interview were fair and bal-anced. However, the copy of the SPAF detractors flyer depicting Pat Christen as a sinister cat and the head-line "We've created a monster" are misleading, sensationalistic, and detract from the real issues that need to be raised.

We are in a new era of the AIDS epidemic, and it we are in a new era of the ADS epidentic, and is legitimate to question the balance of scarce resources and funds in meeting the changing and ongoing needs of people living with HIV/AIDS. It is a critical time of evaluation and the issues need to be discussed. Tom Calvanese's comment that "It's not just the SFAF, it's the whole AIDS service structure... hits closest to the mark.

hits closest to the mark.

It is very important to Project Inform, as I would assume every AIDS Service Organization, to reassess and evaluate its services in light of advances in treatment options available, albeit inaccessible to many. In order to facilitate the discussion and enhance input from those most affected by the epidemic, it would be helded if the entry the press including the be helpful if the community press, including the *B.A.R.*, make every attempt to cover the issues in such a way that invite dialogue and constructive change.

Annette Brands
Executive Director, Project Inform

[Uh, thanks. Whatever else you thought about them, Oh, thanks. Whatever else you thought about them, you have to admit the articles and illustration – which, remember, was of a kitty, the least offensive anthropomorphic image we can think of except a bunny – invited dialogue. And since the flyer addressed the thesis of the article, it was, whether you like it or not, newsworthy enough for inclusion in a newspaper.]

Bright Penny

On Feb. 9th, Network Ministries is saying goodbye to Rev. Penny Sarvis with a public celebration at 555 Ellis Street, from 4-7 p.m.

I met Rev. Penny during my tenure as manager of the Ambassador Hotel, located in the Tenderloin. This was during a time our community had practically no support, dealing with losing friends and loved ones to the AIDS epidemic. Rev. Penny brought dignity, compassion and, most of all, someone to turn to, with her celebration of life memorial services. She visited lonely and dying patients in the hospitals and was al-

ner celebration of the memorial services. She visited lonely and dying patients in the hospitals and was always available to anyone in a distressful situation.

I submit if ever a San Franciscan deserved recognition from a grateful community, it would assuredly be Rev. Penny Sarvis.

I will close with my favorite Bible quote, Corinthians 1-15:10, "By the grace of God, 1 am what I am."

Donna Lisa Stewart San Francisco

The Newtster has two faces

by Wayne Friday

o, it's not the sequel to Babs Streisand's latest opus, but rather the seemingly never-ending saga of House Speaker Newt Gingrich. Two weeks ago, a chagrined Mr. Gin-grich, you may remember, quietly apologized to his fellow House apologized to his fellow House members after the House Ethics Committee found him guilty of, among other things, failing to ensure that the financing for two projects would not violate federal tax laws and giving the HEC false information. "I am responsible," the speaker stated. "I made the mistake, and for that I, and I alone, must be held accountable."

mistake, and for that I, and I alone, must be held accountable." Yes, Newt, from the safety of his plush D.C. offices, was the picture of contrition immediately prior to the House reprimanding him and levying a \$300,000 fine. The man most responsible for driving former Democratic House Speaker Jim Wright from government for much less serious. government for much less serious violations was "standing up to his mistakes" and admit-

ting that he had "brought discredit" to the august body he headed.

At the time, pundits wondered if this could really be the **Our Man Friday**

could really be the new, less combative, less partisan Newt Gingrich, who, caught with his oversized pants down around his knees, was indeed sorry for his prieded. indeed sorry for his misdeeds.

Yeah, right.

Last weekend, on a visit to his Last weekend, on a visit to his conservative, very white district in suburban Atlanta, we saw the Gingrich of yore, and it wasn't a very pretty sight. Suddenly, the speaker was singing a different tune, telling district meetings, solidly packed with pro-Gingrich right-wingers, that the evil, vicious "liberal" press (including the "hometown" Atlanta Journal-Constitution) was to blame for his troubles. He claimed he was being punished for being "politically incorrect" and insisted that it was his law firm that had actually committed the errors.

Whining about the unfair "Washington double standard," Gingrich complained to a packed hall of his admirers that "somehow on the left ... you can donything you want and robe do apprehim you man the left ... you can do nowthing you want and robe do anything you want and robe do apprehim you man the left ... you can do now thing you want and robe do a parthing you want and robe do anything you want and robe and you want and you want

how on the left ... you can do anything you want and nobody seems to notice. But if you are a conservative and you sincerely want to follow the law and you

want to follow the law and you hire lawyers and you honestly do what you can – if you make a single minor mistake – you better plan to be pilloried because you're politically incorrect." This was the testy, smug, contentious Newt we all know and love!

San Francisco's Nancy Pelosi had it right; Gingrich is indeed "ethically unfit" to be even a House member, much less its leader. Mr. Gingrich and his supporters are crying all the way back to Capitol Hill, though. When it comes to the \$300,000, the Newtster can simply take it out of the ster can simply take it out of the cool \$1.1 million he has left over in his '96 campaign kitty. Newt may be damaged, but he's certain-ly not down, and what's worse, he appears here to stay for quite a while longer.

Politics and people

Michael Col-uno, Carole bruno, Carole Migden's longtime trusted aide, is about to leave the assemblywoman's staff.

staff.
A don't-miss
book: Bayard
Rustin: Troubles
I've Seen (A Biography) by Jervis
Anderson;
Harner Collins

HarperCollins, \$30. The fascinat-ing life of the late openly gay African-American, who was an adviser to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and the principal organizer of the 1963 March on

organian 1963 March on Washington, is simply a must-read. Finally! The Orange County Registrar's Office has offi-cially confirmed **Boh Dornan's** loss to De-mocrat **Loretta** Sanchez (by fewer than 1,000 votes). Though the sore loser is still pleading with House Republicans to save him, even they are glad to see

him go. Wel-come to the real world, B-1 Bob! Yes, it was "Governor" Bill Lockyer who declared 46 out of California's 58 counties emergency areas a couple of weeks ego.

Pete Wilson and Lt. Governor Gray Davis were both out of the state, making state Senate President Lockyer of Hayward our "acting governor."

No doubt a waste of time, but

kudos to Virginia state Senator Patricia Ticer, who last week in-troduced legislation in Richmond to protect gays from employment and housing discrimination and allow insurance coverage for domestic partners. The bill, of course, hasn't a prayer in a state that recently affirmed its opposition to home tion to homosexual sex and gay

tion to homosexual sex and gay marriages.

The only living Democratic former president, Jimmy Carter, not only missed August's Demo Convention, but was nowhere to be seen during last week's Washington inaugural, either.

TV's Ellen DeGeneres will

present the Creative Integrity Award, given by the LA Gay and Lesbian Center, to singer k.d. lang in the City of the Angels March 1. Wonder if k.d. will have any words of wisdom for the sitcom star?
And who was that aging rock

legend touring the Castro and Polkstrasse spots last week in a stretch limo with friends? Good

stretch limo with friends? Good golly, Miss Molly!
Gay and lesbian activists who have signed on with the Tom Hayden for Mayor of LA campaign admit that their candidate has little hope of defeating popular Republican incumbent Richard Riordan, but quietly hope that the race will make him a viable candidate for the job in the year 2001, when Riordan cannot run again. not run again.
Someone keeps sending me

Wayne recommends Jervis Anderson's Bayard Rustin bio for your reading pleas



these Chelsea Clinton items. The First Daughter's new boyfriend (yes, Mom recently confirmed she has one) is apparently **John Mohraz**, a senior at Massachusetts' Andover Prep.
Fresh from the Sunshine State:

Fresh from the Sunshine State: Florida state Senator John Grant, a Republican (natch), wants the University of South Florida to cancel a scheduled April 3 speech by former Olympic diver Greg Louganis, who's openly gay and HIV-positive. The rabidly conser-vative Grant says he can't support future spending increases for the future spending increases for the university if money is used to pay for Louganis's visit: "Such a presentation represents moral decadence and is an embarrassment to the university community, 'Crant proclaimed, Fortunately, university officials say the speech will go on as scheduled.

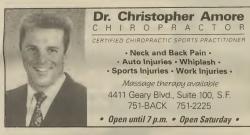
San Francisco state Senator John Burton, one of Pete Wilsson's sharpest critics, proposed bills last week that would make it a felony to be poor. "I'm facetious and I'm not," said Burton. "The governor's basic philosophy is that people are poor because they want to be poor. So in order to discourage people from being poor, we would make it a crime." Burton's bills would make it a crime to live on an income below San Francisco state Senator crime to live on an income below the federal poverty level or have a the federal poverty level or have a child while living in poverty. His bills would also establish a state orphan asylum to house the children of the poor. "They [the poor] would become middle class and wealthy as a result of the legislation," Burton explained, tongue firmly in cheek. "A guy would wake up in the morning... realize that being poor is a crime, tinker around in the garage a little bit, start a computer company,

bit, start a computer company, and become a millionaire."

Most of the San Francisco members of the Reform Party came away from last weekend's Nashville convention convinced their group might be better off without Ross Perot. Could Ted Turner be their candidate in

East Bay Rep. Ron Dellums is East Bay Rep. Ron Denums is thinking about retiring after his current term is over. If you live in his district, you should be voting for Rich Gordon, a highly qualified, openly gay candidate for San Mateo supe, on April 8.







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Mirror, mirror on the wall...



ontestants at the 13th annual ETVC Cotillion apply the finishing touches backstage at the California Jan. 25. These glamorous debutantes, including Tiara del Fuego (center) and Stephanie Summers nt), strutted their considerable stuff before the dazzled judges in active wear, formal wear and talent When all the scores were tallied, local musician Dale Carlson (far left) was the new Miss ETVC.

Cult of mediocrity

by Beth Elliott

rom New Year's Eve until last week, I'd been wonder-ing whether my post-manic-depressive streak (since manic-depressive streak (since Shasta at summer solstice) were coming to an end. I'd been ana-lyzing my emotional state so fine-ly it took a while to acknowledge how a hellish workload and gen-uine bummers had combined to produce a major post-Nepal trip

letdown.

Among our Nepal tour group, I'd been judged and respected as a person purely on merit. I was admired for making part of my living doing something I enjoy: writing. My straight mates thought it really cool that I'm published weekly. Some said they'd look for the B.A.R. so they could read my column, knowing it's a gay/lesbian weekly.

column, knowing it a garrier weekly.

The big tests of hoopiness on this tour were coping with only a partial set of western amenities

partial set of western amenities and behaving appropriately and respectfully in a foreign cultural matrix (the ever-popular multicultural challenge). I passed: I was told I'm welcome on the next trip.

When I got home, however, I splashed down into a pool of mediocrity—the kind of self-congratulatory mediocrity far too typical of our community. A housemate had played fast and loose with some shared living loose with some shared living space boundaries. She had also underpaid household bills in my absence, claiming inadvertence even though she had to note my check amounts to calculate hers and write remiller ones.

and write smaller ones.

A woman I'd been briefly dating before my trip – who's been to Nepal and considered meeting someone about to have that experience significant – has returned none of the phone messages I've left since getting back. A kiss-off note in the mail would have been more polite than this. Or even one of those "I've decided I'm not ready to start dating again after the last break-up after all" conversations (speaking of lesbian medi-ocrity). A date on New Year's Eve this early in dating might have been emotionally loaded, I'll admit; I could have handled "I need some time for myself, especially now." But dead silence? Only the most hurtful conclu-

sions can be drawn from that. On the trip back, I'd taken advantage of customs regulations to treat myself to a bottle of good cotreat mysen to a bottle of good co-gonac; only the duty-free price and lack of sales tax in Seoul justified the expense. The Saturday after New Year's I came back from a walk around the lake to have our walk around the lake to have our (dyke) housekeeper – someone with whom I "shared" my income by hiring – ask whether I minded her having helped herself to a shot. She'd never had the opportunity to taste any before, she said, and she hoped I didn't mind or that it wasn't something expensive she shouldn't have touched (which it was). Had she asked, I would have given her a taste. would have given her a taste.

But this passive-aggressive act of entitlement-think so stunned me that I failed to react appropriately, to wit: ripping her a new one. (The household has since replaced her.)
So maybe my
post-Nepal funk has

just been cul-ture shock -

reacclimating to taking such flaky, self-serving behavior for granted as the price for access to some sort of lesbian community. some sort of lesbian community. Is it any wonder, then, that I'd also made the questionable call of wondering too much about the overtures of friendship of a neighborhood woman who's married but appears to be questioning? As in, someone who might be discovering an attraction to women, but hasn't been exposed to the lesbian community yet and thus hasn't picked up dyke attitude and the bad habits that seem to go

the bad habits that seem to go along with it?

There were women on the Nepal trip of whom I thought, I'd really like to meet someone just like this who likes women instead of men. What it comes down to, I fear, is a reality differential. of men. What it comes down to, if fear, is a reality differential. There's something conservatives say about progressive politics and our community I'm reluctantly concluding is an accurate observation: too many people want benefits to flow to themselves from group affiliation rather than merit. Parroting the right jargon, having the right look, dishing the right took, dishing the right took as well as them so right attitude, etc. make them so deserving that they're above manners and even morality (as in, don't help yourself to someone else's liquor cabinet). This phenomenon, I fear, dri-

ves too many intelligent and de-cent (and therefore desirable) women out of the lesbian comwomen out of the lesbian com-munity. They are driven out by those who expect that being fab-ulous and queer entitles them to be somebody—and to be deferred to as though they were. The women who don't play along get called "assimilationist" and "elitist" – just for wanting to be real people instead of part of a fashionable crowd. From our community, they get judgment instead of support. And so they blend in, re-

fusing to take any chance of being mistaken for one of their ruder, self-impor-

tant sisters.
One recent Saturday
night, I went to the movies
with a friend who is in
the process of moving
out of a household run by one of those vic-tim/entitle-

ment-type drama queens. Having had a

run-in with her that day, my friend drank about three beers over the course of the evening, and called the next day to apologize for being less than sober. I thanked her, but told her not to worry – though ob-viously unwinding from the pres-sure, none of her behavior had

Sapphistication

sure, none of her behavior had been inappropriate or detracted from my enjoying her company. This friend is getting fed up with politically correct expecta-tions—and her process of accepttions – and her process of accepting herself as someone who won't
toe the line looks an awful lot like
the individuation process between adolescence to adulthood.
She spoke of having taken a
chance recently on dating a
woman who might not have been
a rocket surgeon but was damned
cute – and out it when I said she cute - and got it when I said she didn't have to apologize to me for asking this woman out because she found her attractive. (Asking a woman out because you find her attractive – now, there's a new lesbian concept!)

So here's another bright woman fed up with the Cult Med, the antidote to civilization. Excel-

Mom goes online

by Terry Beswick

om, it's 1997! You've got to get with the program!"
I very nearly yelled into the telephone. "You've got to get online!"

Her voice took on that ma-

Her voice took on that matronizing tone that meant I might think that I was right, but her goal was to pacify me, nothing more. "Oh, I know," she said. "I know." I don't normally resort to yelling at my mother. Usually she responds well to standard manipulation. But now I was at the end of my rope, having pleaded for nearly a year.

nearly a year.

I appealed to her refined apa appealed to her retined appreciation for pragmatism. "Mom, don't you want to surf the Web? Don't you want to go shopping online? Instantly correspond with all your online sons?" That failing, the guilt card. "Don't you even want to see My New Web Page?"

"Well, of course, I mean ...I

"Well, of course. I mean ...I guess so," she stammered. Now

collar husband with a few big appliances. Sometimes I think there's an unspoken disappointment in the air; not over my being gay, mind you, but what about the house? I mean, am I a bad son or what!? Here Mom is approaching retirement age, and I can't even help her get

online!
"Mom, I'm coming over," I said and hung up the phone. I grabbed one of those damn America Online 3.0 diskettes, and in an hour, I was eating mines. eating mi-crowave chicken **Virtual Queer**

First, we established that Mom's computer did, in fact, have a modem, albeit not exactly state-of-the-art. We fired her up, and read aloud as the screen guided us through the rather involved sign-on procedure. I reassured her that she would not have to type in her name, address, credit card, phone

to send e-mail, how to join Cha-trooms, how to TOS someone, how to change her password so I couldn't access her e-mail, etc. Queerly enough, she was very in-trigued by the names of some of the Member Chatrooms, especial-ly the Lipstick Amazons ISO Sacrificial Virgins. I decided it was time

I decided it was time to go home. Now I often wonder

what she's up to when I call and the line is busy. What have I created??

When I got home, there was an e-mail from Mom asking for my **Web Page**

Panicked, I suddenly realized Panicked, I suddenly realized that my Page included some rather provocative imagery not intended for a mother's eyes. Swiftly, I accessed My Personal Publisher, found the offending html, and hit delete. A rather vanilla gif of me with my nephew will doubtless win far greater approval, and who knows? Mavbe the men will like it more,

Before retiring, it was time to cruise my favorite chatroom, **San Francisco M4M**. As I entered (on

Maybe the men will like it more,

the 97th attempt), I was filled again with a terrible foreboding.

What if Mom linked to SF M4M from my Web Page under an assumed screen name and a hot profile? What if she was here right now? What if I accidentally cruised her with an IM?!?

I quickly assumed a new iden-

tity.

Hey, why not? Amazons here I come! They'll never know ... ;-) ▼

Visit to bolded words on: http://members.aol.com/Wired2 BGay/vgz.html.

Poor Mom, living alone in Silicon Valley, isolated from the teeming Virtual World while a computer sits dusty in the corner.

she was beginning to crack.
"Well, what's stopping you?
Just turn it on and jump in!" I
tried to make it sound easy;
Mother and machines do not mix

"Are you sure I can just ... turn it on?" she asked, sounding for a moment like a little girl being asked to bungee jump into 3Com Park.

3Com Park.

"Mom. You have a modem, don't you?"

"Well, I guess so. I don't know. Do I need one?" she intoned.
Poor Mom, I thought. Living alone in Silicon Valley, totally isolated from the teeming Virtual World while a perfectly capable computer - her window to a new freedom and enlightenment in her Golden Girl Years - sat dusty and unused in the corner, next to

her Golden Girl Years - sat dusty and unused in the corner, next to the stationary bicycle/coat rack.

Then old tapes began replaying in my head, tapes Mother had programmed into me since I was kicking in her womb: "When I'm old, will you take care of me?" Yes, Mummy. "Will you keep me company so I won't get lonely? "Yes, Mummy: "Will you become a doctor and buy me a big house with all the amenities?" 'Yes, Mummy." Will you get married and make 'Will you get married and make beautiful grandchildren?' 'Yes, Mummy."

Now look at me. No M.D., no

number and birth date every time

"Anyway," I told her. "Just think, Mom! Soon you, too, will be cruising the Web!"
Once through the registration, of course it took us about an hour and a half of busy signals to actually access America Online, (Formally access America Online, Formally access America Online, (Formally access Ameri ally access America Online. (Fortunately, Mom had been forewarned on the evening news about AOL's overloaded circuits). Then I showed her a few tricks: how to set up a self-profile, how

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CLARIFICATION

In a recent article about Buddhist AIDS Project co-founder Steve Peskind's open request to the Dalai Lama, Peskind was described as a "gay Buddhist leader." The appellation was the Bay Area Re-porter's, not Peskind's. Peskind had no control over the story's placement on the front page

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'Ned' pulls gun on gay

by Don Romesburg, GLAAD/SF media resource center manager

n a shocking display of antigay violence played for laughs, the January 20 episode of the popular Monday night Fox program Ned and Stacey has Ned pulling out a gun to threaten a gay admirer who is portrayed as a stalker. The subplot, which has the gay character admiring Ned from afar but being ignored from afar but being ignored throughout the show, takes a grim turn in the

final scene. Ned is lis-tening to messages on his answering machine. All of the messages are from the gay co-work-er, and begin with in-

er, and begin with innocuous messages
such as, "I was just
thinking about you," and "My machine is broken, and I just thought
you might have called." The next
message has him inviting Ned to
a play, and then one of him calling from the theater saying, "How
could you stand me up like this?"
In the last message, he announces could you stand me up like this?"
In the last message, he announces
that he is in Ned's apartment hiding in the bedroom wearing nothing but a thong. As the end credits roll, Ned pulls out a gun and
heads for the bedroom.
In addition to perpetuating the
hateful stereotype of gay men as
predators, particularly in the pursuit of straight men, the episode

suit of straight men, the episode sends a clear message that it is acceptable for men to respond to unwanted admiration by gay men with violence. Considering the very recent murder of Scott Amedure by Jonathan Schmitz sup-posedly due to "unwanted atten-tion," the scene is in more than just poor taste. It is irresponsible,

malicious and dangerous.

Demand that Fox apologize for the scene, and that the pro-gram counter this horrible episode with more inclusive, re-

episode with more inclusive, respectful and accurate representations of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people.
Contact: Chase Carey, Chairperson/CEO, Fox Broadcasting Company, P.O. Box 900, Beverly Hills, CA 90123, fax: 310.369.1433, e-mail: askfox@foxinc.com

Brandon Teena gets Dunne wrong

In the January 13 New Yorker, crime writer John Gregory Dunne wrote "The Humboldt Murders," which examined the 1993 Nebras-

a murder of Brandon Teena and his two friends. Dunne does not understand Brandon's transgender identity, and describes him as a stereotypical "predatory" butch lesbian. The author insists on relesbian. The author insists on referring to Brandon as "her" for most of the piece. "That Teena Brandon (Brandon's birth name) had been able to pass herself off as a man to the officers was not that surprising," Dunne writes. "She was known as Brandon, and as Brandon, she, as he, had declared his love for and slept with a num-

and slept with a number of women in Falls City and Humboldt." Dunne also seems to point to Brandon's male-identification as "confusion," and "gen-der disorientation,"

though by all appearances, it was anything but confused. "She [Brandon] was undereducated, her ambition was limited, and, most important, she imited, and, most important, she was without positive identity." Because Brandon Teena lived in a world where his access to support services and transgender discussions were essentially nonexistent, he was isolated as a transsexual. He repeatedly asserted that he was not a lesbian, which is disregard-ed. Dunne's labeling of Brandon's constant desire for women and constant desire for women and his self-identification as a man a "sexual ambiguity," is nothing more than a rationalization for Dunne's own belief that Brandon was simply a butch lesbian who was simply a butch lesbian who couldn't accept her sexual orientation. Additionally troublesome is the portrayal of Brandon as a smooth Casanova, a seducer who lured women to his bed and deceived them. This portrait is a hackneyed old stereotype of "predatory" butch lesbians who prey on "feminine" women.

Write to The New Yorker and correct the many layers of ignorates the many layers of ignorates.

correct the many layers of ignorance that Dunne has displayed in

his understanding of sexual ori-entation and identity. Contact: "In The Mail," The New Yorker, 20 West 43rd Street, New York, NY 10036

Here she comes, Miss Known World

MCA-Universal Television's MCA-Officers leaves features a transgender character in this week's episode. Drag superstar Karen Dior plays Miss Artiphys, a transgender contestant in the Miss Known World beauty pageant who saves Xena from certain death and goes on to win the

contest. Xena goes undercover at the pageant to keep it from being sabotaged, and discovers early on that Miss Artiphys is a man in drag. She is unflinched by this discovery, and states her hope that "the best person [will] win." During her coronation ceremony, Miss Artiphys pulls Xena from the sidelines, dips her, and gives her a big kiss to gasps in the audience as Gabrielle (Xena's sidekick) looks on jealously.

Gabrielle (Xena's sidekick) looks on jealously. Xena, a cult favorite of many lesbians, celebrates drag in this episode, questions gender con-ventions and ideas of "feminine" ventions and ideas of "feminine" beauty, and plays off the generally adverse reaction of society to same-sex kissing. In a fun way, the show gives a transgender character depth and allows him to be a hero while conveying the more serious message that many of society's assumptions about gender and sexual orientation are both groundless and absurd.

groundless and absurd.
Congratulate MCA-Universal
and Renaissance Pictures (Xena's and kenaissance Pictures (Actias production company) for a fabulous and smart episode dealing with transgender issues and sexual orientation.
Contact: Tom Thayer, President, MCA-Universal Television,

100 Universal City Plaza, Univer-sity Plaza, CA 91608, e-mail: tv@mca.com; Robert Tapert and Sam Raimi, Executive Producers, Xena: Warrior Princess, Renais-sance Pictures, 100 Universal City Plaza, Bungalow 415-A, Universal City, CA 91608

Stung by Cornwell's 'Hornet's Nest'

In her new novel, Hornet's Nest, best-selling author Patricia Cornwell has strayed from the use of her popular character Dr. Kay Scarpetta as protagonist, and has also veered away from her usually well-balanced representations of gays and lesbians. Hornet's Nest results a sound a series of hrutal revolves around a series of brutal murders in Charlotte, North Car-olina. A serial killer slays out-oftown businessmen, shooting them in the head, spray-painting them in the head, spray-painting a bright orange hour-glass on their groins, and leaving them in the grass with their pants around their ankles. While another strong female character (Virginia West, Deputy Chief of Police) is the center of the story, the book is rid-dled with gratuitous homophobic remarks, a host of homophobic characters, and a minor gay charcharacters, and a minor gay character whose sole interest in life is an obsession with a male colleague. As if that weren't enough, Cornwell pulls out all the stops, and in the conclusion (yes, we're giving away the ending here) reveals the brutal murderer to be a "big, ugly sh'im," a transsexual pimp with bright orange dreadlocks.

By relying on abhorrent stereotypes and perpetuating the myth of homicidal transsexuals which was overtly displayed in 1990's Silence of the Lambs, Cornwell offends our community and fosters hate and confusion. Readers used to the characters from her previous novels will be dis-

her previous novels will be dismayed and disappointed by this most recent turn for the worse.

Please tell Cornwell that it's a mystery why anyone would write such a hateful book, and let Putnam know that by publishing the novel, they've helped to str up a hornet's nest of homophobia, transphobia and misinformation.

Contact: Patricia Cornwell,
PC Enterprises, PO Box 35486,
Richmond, VA 23235 ▼



Become an ex-straight

by Simon LeVay, Ph.D.

ear Dr. LeVay: I'm a 19-year-old guy who hangs out with a gay crowd, but I'm straight. Can you help me make the switch?

Gay Wannabe in West Hollywood.

Dear Wannabe: You're not alone. Today's fashion-conscious and media-savy gay community is attracting many young people who have all the qualifications for a gay lifestyle – except for their stubborn heterosexual tendencies. Converting to homosexuality is not easy, but

uality is not easy, but
you have already
taken that crucial
first step: you have acknowledged that you have a problem and you have formed a
sincere desire to change.
There hasn't been much research on how

to become gay, but the scientific literature is full of researchers who

have used various techniques in their attempts to make people straight. It seems likely that the techniques would work as well in one direction as the other, so here are a few you might consider. I have adapted them to the direction of change you de-

Edward Callahan and Harold Leitenberg of the University of Vermont developed the "covert sensitization" procedure. This is particularly suited to a do-itparticularly suited to a do-it-yourself approach because it re-quires no drugs, electrodes, or other potentially dangerous equipment. After an initial relax-ation session, you have to imag-ine engaging in an episode of het-erosexual sex that goes badly wrong. "A man might be asked to imagine going to a woman's apartment," the authors write, "approaching her bedroom, initi-ating sexual activity, feeling in-"approaching her bedroom, initiating sexual activity, feeling increasingly nauseous, and finally vomiting on her, on the sheets, and all over himself. A variation on this scene might involve finding that the woman is rotting with syphilitic sores, or that she has diarrhea during the encounter." After a mere ten sessions of this, according to the ausions of this, according to the authors, heterosexual feelings are a thing of the past.

Jerking off for mental health

If you want to positively en-courage homosexuality, rather than merely discourage heterosexuality, here is another method. sexuality, here is another method, also suitable for at-home use. It was developed by Scottish psychiatrists R.J. McGuire, J.M. Carlisle, and B.G. Young, You are instructed to masturbate, using fantasies of sex with a woman as you usu-ally do. But as soon as orgasm is inevitable (a few seconds prior to ejaculation) you must switch your imagined partner to the male sex. The beauty of this technique is that, while the

heterosexual fantasies do the work of getting you excited, it is the homosexual fantasies that become associated with the reward of orgasm. This is called operant conditioning. With Queer Science conditioning. With enough repetitions, the procedure should

induce homosexual urges even in a person who has never previously experienced

them.

If neither of these methods work, you may need to try full-scale aversion therapy. The safest aversion technique for home use aversion technique for nome use is the chemical method, as pioneered by University of New South Wales psychiatrist Nathaniel McConaghy. Set yourself up with your favorite pin-ups or a juicy porno tape (preferably one of those "lesbian" tapes so there's no man in the picture.) one of those "lesbian" tapes so there's no man in the picture). Just when you're getting excited, take a nausea-inducing drug. Mc-Conaghy used apomorphine, which requires a prescription and could be toxic. I suggest you substitute a food that you know will disagree with you. Failing that, a sharp slap in the face or a cold shower will probably work just as well, though it might take a few extra sessions.

extra sessions.

For an even speedier entree to homosexuality, there's elec-troshock aversion therapy, as pioneered by psychologists at Brigham Young University for their gay-impaired students. Fill a carousel with slides of naked ALAIN MIKLI • CAIVIN KLEIN • ADELCHI LIERA • POLO • GUESS • MODO • SAKI • KISURA • RED ROSE • LAFONT • ROBERT LA ROCHE

turn you on), alternating with slides of naked guys (pick ones you'd like to be turned on by). You'll be watching the slides while holding the clicker that advances the carousel from one slide to the next. Get a qualified electrician to set up a circuit to deliver a painful but not life-threatening shock to your arms every time a female ap-pears on the screen. Even better, pears of the screen. Even better, rig it so that you can escape the shock by hitting the clicker within two seconds of the female slide coming up. That way, you get either negative reinforcement (pain) associated with the females or positive reinforcement (relief or positive reinforcement (reflect at escaping pain) associated with the male slides. Do this for thirty minutes daily. If you're not queer within a month, there's something wrong with you.

Simon LeVay, Ph.D., is wellknown for his research on the "gay brain." He is the author of Queer Science (MIT Press,



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Partners benefits ground United at SFO

by Dennis Conkin

pproval of a 25-year lease between the SF Interna-tional Airport and United Airlines has been postponed until the Tuesday, February 4 meeting of the Board of Supervisors be-cause of a requirement the airline provide domestic partner benefits to employees. to employees.

The measure had been sched-uled for consideration by the board at its January 26 meeting. The vote on a \$13.4 million kitchen and maintenance facility

lease at San Francisco International Airport was postponed at United's request, to give the airline time to review issues related to meeting the terms of the do-mestic partner amendment to the city's Human Rights Ordinance

signed into law last November
The amendment adds a clause
to the HRO that forbids the city from doing business with con-tractors who discriminate by not providing domestic partners health and other benefits to work-

heath and other benefits to work-ers if they provide similar benefits to heterosexual married spouses. The ordinance also forbids city contractors from discriminating on the basis of race, religion, an-

cestry, gender, and gender identity
The lease had been sent to the Board Government Efficiency and Labor Committee for approval by the Airports Commission without

the Airports Commission without the domestic partners language in the lease agreement. Some City Hall politicos say that the culprit in the lease lan-guage snafu may have actually been the city's Dept. of Real Es-

been the city's Dept. of Real Estate, but others say the snafu is the responsibility of the airport "Maybe they thought the legislation didn't apply to them," carped one City Hall source.

With an estimated 8,000 work-

ers in San Francisco, and 85,000



workers nationwide, United says that the law raises a "number of complex issues" and has not indicated whether it will comply with the measure or litigate the re-quirements in court.

"We are continuing to review the domestic partners ordinance [sic] and its potential effect, both economic and otherwise, on Unit-ed, our employees, and our bene-fit plans," United said in a press

fit plans," United said in a press statement.

According to spokeswoman Mary Jo Holland, the issue "could have unforeseen ramifications" to United Airlines, "both from a cost perspective and as an employee relations matter."

In its statement, United claimed the definition of domestic nattners may vary from state to

tic partners may vary from state to state, and said it could be "inappropriate to broaden our benefit base when thousands of employ-ees have made salary and benefit

concessions to improve our cost structure and reduce expenses."

The company said that all cur-rent union contract agreements would have to be renegotiated in light of the contract requirement.

The company's corporate response is "disappointing but not a surprise," said David Tomb, the founder of United at United, the airline's independent lesbian and

gay employees association.

Tomb said that while the company has historically raised issues of cost, renegotiation of labor

contracts, and international implications, as well as "a misunder standing" of the definition of do mestic partner, the employee's group has also previously provided them with information about implementing such benefits poli-cies – including sample domestic partners policies of other corpo-

In place ...someplace

Tomb also said that despite the company's press statement, Unit-ed currently already provides do-mestic partner benefits in the Netherlands, Australia, and New

Zēaland.

He also said that United is aware that only about one percent of eligible workers actually choose to add their partners in such benefit packages, because their partners in such relationships are em-

ployed.
Tomb dismissed United's claim about contract renegotiaciaim about contact renegoua-tions, saying that recipients of such benefits are mandated by company policy rather than con-tractually negotiated – and that United workers, regardless of di-vision, basically receive the same

United's public comments on the matter "reflected homopho-bia," he said. "It's time for some advisor

"It's time for some education, and if that education comes about because of a San Francisco man-date, I think that is okay," Tomb

Vigilant supes

The ordinance's co-author, Supervisor Tom Ammiano, said that despite "the straight San Francisco news media's hysteria, United has

news mena's nysteria, officiation that it would not sign the lease."

Ammiano said there was also "never any question" that either he or Supervisor Leslie Katz would raise the issue about the contracte missing language.

contract's missing language.
"Did they think that Leslie and This they think that Lessie and I weren't going to be vigilant? I understand they wanted some time to look at things. They must have known about this. The contract is for 25 years," he said.

Geoff Kors, a spokesman for Katz and the author of the legisla-

tion, said that United wasn't being singled out for special treatment, and the amendment applied to any contractor who had more than a two-year lease with the city.

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Kico Govantes brightens and honors Market Street

by Dennis Conkin

hen gay San Francisco artist Kico Govantes was deciding just what he wanted to submit as an entry for "Art In Transit," a San Francisco Art In Iransit," a San Francisco Arts Commission-sponsored ex-hibition along Market Street, he spent a lot of time riding his 1974 Schwinn three-speed bicycle up and down Market Street. Along the way, he said he discovered "cu-rious similarities" in the diversi-ties of the thoroughler as it runs ties of the thoroughfare as it runs through different neighborhoods at certain times: people from the Castro through the Civic Center and into the downtown retail and financial areas, all doing very sim-

financial areas, all doing very similar things.

"I began to focus on the similarities up and down Market Street and how it changes as a whole as the day passes on," he told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "Six distinct time frames began to evolve: morning rush hour, mid-

afternoon pause, afternoon rush hour, and dinner/theatre/evening

Govantes, 40, also paid attention to the light and was struck with the way it changes through

with the way it changes through the day.

"Whether you're at the Embarcadero or Van Ness, the light is very yellow at 7:30 in the morning. There are no blues or reds yet. It's very yellow orange," he said.

Govantes chose a clock as a device to organize the theme – and submitted the actual visual story of "Las Oras del Dio" ("The Hours of the Day") to the Arts Commission, in six pieces.

"In each corner of the paintings, a clock reflects the time of

"In each corner of the paintings, a clock reflects the time of day," he pointed out to the commission when he submitted the work last July. "The color scheme and figures, building, etc., reflect the activities common at the time. "The idea is to paint a story, not just a group of six paintings." In August, Govantes was chosen unanimously to receive the

sen unanimously to receive the commission award – which was juried by a selection panel, then a Visual Arts Committee of the Arts Commission, and then finally ap-proved by the entire commission.

"I was extremely flattered," he said. "It's the first time I've ever participated in public art."

Street scene: artist Kico Govantes on his new work, "The idea is to paint a story, not just a group of six paintings.

The six works are now dis-played in 24 triangular kiosks on Market Street. Each piece includes

a Spanish title for the period of the day ("Almuerzo" for lunch, "Noche" for evening, and so forth) plus stick figure depictions of a variety of people – including gay and straight individuals and couples – engaged in the time pe-riod's activities.

Govantes says by looking care-Govantes says by looking care-fully, viewers might discover something about the stick figure people that they might miss in just a casual glance: their torsos

'Not just because we look like that, but because we are vessels on this planet for a microsecond's time and we fill up our cups," he

The idea was incorporated into his art as a youth, after Gov-antes realized that the human ability to form the hand into a cup and lift water from river source to mouth distinguished man from animal, and was a key factor into the development of civilization, enabling people to use gourds and other water-bearvessels and move inland, away

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ATISFIE



David Ho opens retroviral conference

HIV eradication: the unanswered question

by Bob Roehr

he 4th Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections opened in Washington, DC Wednesday, January 22. It seemed appropriate that the most important scientific meeting on HIV would begin with an address by its most preminent researcher, Dr. David Ho. "Can HIV be eradicated from an infected person?" asked Ho.

an infected person?" asked Ho.
"We don't know, but it is impor-tant to find out." He offered no news but instead reviewed how we have come to understand the dynamics of HIV. The key facts were learning that infected cells producing the virus have a half-life of about one and a half days, and the free floating infectious virions only about six hours. This led to estimates of the scope of viral infection and a framework for evaluating the effect of thera-

He went on to explain how his studies "involve careful quantita-tive analysis of real patient data;



they are not theory in a vacuum. We think this is justified because we know the book of nature is written in the language of mathe-

matics."

His team examined the different types of tissue cells where HIV can lodge and found that those cells have a half-life that can range from 9 to 35 days. "But in addition to knowing something about decay characteristics, we must know something about pool sizes." Using the most conservative assumptions (i.e., the largest sizes. Using the most conserva-tive assumptions (i.e., the largest number of infected cells), he has concluded that even the most ef-fective therapy would require up to three years to fully clear the virus from the body.

Maximum vs. minimum

He is encouraged that under triple therapy, HIV in a number of his patients has been reduced to below detectable levels in both blood and tissue samples. But he cautions that "we haven't gotten to the point yet" where we can remove therapy and see if the virus has been eradicated. He stressed the need for longer therapy before the need for longer therapy before taking that risk.

"I believe it is important for us to collectively determine the fea-sibility of eradication of HIV sibility of eradication of HIV from an infected person, for this information will eventually dictate our treatment philosophy.

"If it is unfeasible, then we are likely to adopt a strategy similar to

the treatment of hypertension or diabetes, where minimal therapies are administered to achieve the desired effect. If it is indeed feasi-ble, then we are likely to adopt a strategy similar to the treatment of tuberculosis or leukemia, where maximum therapy is given to shorten the treatment dura-

Ho concluded, "We must dutifully avoid unwarranted tri-uphantism, for much remains to be done. On the other hand, the undue pessimism that prevails in some circles is equally unhealthy. The state of HIV treatment is neither black nor white. We must paint the situation the proper shade of gray."

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Issues in therapy at the 4th Retroviral Conference

should be to reduce viral load below detectable levels, agreed the scientists and clinicians agreed the scientists and clinicians meeting at the prestigious 4th Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections in Washington, DC January 22-26. When to start that therapy, and what to administer to achieve that end, is still very much a subject of discussion.

The logic of arguments proposed by Dr. David Ho, the current leading light in the field.

posed by Dr. David Ho, the current leading light in the field, points to treating as early as possible. That position was echoed by Dutch physician Joep Lange. "Immune deterioration goes on all the time, there really is no reason to wait, unless the patient is not willing to be treated," he said. "I don't think you are wasting future options by going into triple drug therapy." That seems to be the emerging majority, but by no

emerging majority, but by no means consensus, opinion. Past conference chair Dr. "Chip" Schooley made a strong argument that PWAs should be regiment that rwws should be treated by a physician with exper-tise in the disease. "An optimum regiment is patient dependent, there may be a regiment you use more often, but if the patient doesn't tolerate it very well, it's not the optimal regiment." He not the optimal regiment." He said the effectiveness of protease inhibitors "depends more on what the patient's virus has seen" than on the viral load or the length of

time from point of infection.

One of the most chilling moments came when conference chair Dr. Douglas Richman and chair Dr. Douglas Richman and vice chair Dr. Constance Benson both said they deny protease therapy to those they feel will not comply with the difficult dosing regiment those drugs demand. "There are two reasons," said Benson. "One is the safety of the medication. Language the two feets are the control of the safety of the medication. Language the two feets are the control of the safety of the medication. Language the two feets are the safety of the medication. ication. Inappropriate use of those drugs by the patient may harm them. And the second is the interest of public health," and the possibility that drug resistant strains of the virus will develop and get passed on by non-compliant patients.

The virus

HIV has long been known to be a highly unstable virus capable of frequent mutation. Alan Perel-David Ho, found that there are theoretically 30,000 possible mu-tations within the HIV genome, and every day viral replication produces perhaps one percent of those variations. The three specific mutations necessary to confer resistance to protease carry the mathematical odds of one-in-ten million in occurring. But given the billions of cells infected with HIV in an individual with a high viral load, those mutations see almost inevitable.

A retrospective study in rural lowa showed that genetic struc-ture of 29 percent of PWAs examture of 29 percent of PWAs examined had some resistance to pro-tease—despite never having taken any of the drug. This led the researchers to call the genome variations "polymorphous" rather than mutations, because they occur naturally in at least one percent of the view. cent of the virus

But they also found those variations did not necessarily confer nor did they predict - resistance to protease, And some polymor-phisms even reversed under therapy. Nonetheless, the University of Iowa study concluded that some

patients are probably being switched to therapies to which they are already resistant. Implicit in the conclusion is that genotypic assays of individ-ual patients would be a useful tool in case management and selection of therapy. No commercial ver-sions of that labor-intensive and expensive laboratory technique are currently available.

Opportunistic infections

Opportunistic infections
One of the long-standing guidelines for AIDS has been to initiate prophylaxis or preventive therapy for PCP and other opportunistic infections (OIs) when CD4 counts fall below 200. The new generation of antiretroviral medications, principally protease inhibitors, has been very success-

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Dr. Robert "Chip" Schooley.

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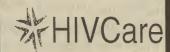
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Conference

ful in reducing viral load and raising CD4 count. They often bring a spontaneous remission of OIs as the body's immune system strengthens and becomes better able to combat them.

Reconstitution

So the intriguing question has become, can prophylaxis be discontinued when CD4 counts rise above 200? The answer we have so far is a qualified maybe. But don't go rushing to find out. It appears that reconstituted CD4s may not include a full complement of cell subsets. And particular subsets are necessary to fight particular infec-

It seems likely that subsets and their reconstitution vary greatly from person to person. That's why some people with the same gross CD4 count are susceptible to cer-tain OIs while others appear to be tain Us while others appear to be less so. Thus a person with a gross CD4 of only 50 may have a subset which is necessary to fight off PCP, while a person with reconstituted CD4 totals several hundred above that number may have few defenses against the infection.

We do not have a definitive inventory of which subsets of T-cells are necessary to fight off each disease. Prophylaxis for most OIs is relatively easy to take and relatively inexpensive, especially when compared with protease in-hibitors. Thus clinicians recom-

mend continuing on existing prophylaxis even when CD4 levels rebound well above the 200 level.

The history of HIV has seen a succession of markers used to evaluate the state of infection and response to therapy. CD4 counts are one of the most important, though over the last year measurement of viral load has as-

sured primary importance.

DACS 071, a retrospective cross protocol study, looked at both CD4 and viral load as predictors of three of the most common 01s: PCP, CMV, and MAC. It found these meaders to be indeed. mon OIS: PCP, CMV, and MAC. It found these markers to be inde-pendent predictors of infections. Each 50 T-cell decline below 200 doubled the risk for PCP and tripled the risk for CMV and MAC.

Viral load information added no predictive information for those with less than 75 CD4 count. There was a slight predictive value for higher counts, but the incidents of these infections is so small that they saw little practical application in using viral load

car application in using viral load for this purpose. TMP-SMX: Trimethaprim-sulfamethoxazole is recognized as the superior agent for prophylax-is of PCP pneumonia. However, is of PCP pneumonia. However, significant numbers of patients cannot tolerate beginning with the effective dosage of the drug. The ACTG 268 trial found they could greatly reduce adverse reactions by sensitizing the body to the drug by first administering lower doses of it and then stepping up to full strength over the course of two weeks. course of two weeks.

The pipeline

A year ago treatment activists were worried that there didn't seem to be much in the drug development pipeline after protease inhibitors. Their attitude this year was decidedly more upbeat. A was decidedly more upbeat. A number of drugs are showing very strong results in the laboratory and in limited phase I/II trials. Many will likely be more widely available in clinical trials later this year and seem likely to be approved in the next year or so. Included in that list is the protease inhibitor nelfinavir, which has strong antiviral activity, and more importantly, different mutation points to confer resistance. It should be approved in the

It should be approved in the

spring.
Other drugs in less advanced states of development are the pro-tease inhibitor 141, which only has to be taken once a day; 1592, a has to be taken once a day; 1592, a nucleoside analog seen as a more powerful successor to AZT; and DMP-266, a potent non-nucleoside analog. The data on all of these drugs is so limited that the products still have not been named and are referred to by named and are referred to by company research numbers. But that has not stopped treatment activists from pushing for expanded access for people in whom existing drugs have stopped working.

Gay youth

"Persons who reported sharing needles, having more than ten sex partners, and fisting were more likely to be HIV-positive than those not reporting these behav-iors," McFarland said.

iors," McFarland said.

The study also documented that the 12.5 percent rate of HIV infection among African-American youth surveyed was "significantly higher" than other ethnic groups, despite the survey findings that young black men reported less unsafe sex practices or drug use practices than whites.

"Higher rates of HIV infection among African-American men re-

"Higher rates of HIV infection among African-American men remains an unexplained finding that has been replicated in several other studies. The issue remains an important public heath research question," he said.

"The highest rate of AIDS infection continues to be among black men," Coates said. "There has to be better attention paid to this. We're losing the next generation of African-American men for all kinds of reasons."

Some AIDS experts theorize that African-Americans are more susceptible to HIV because of a genetic defect in Caucasian blood

genetic defect in Caucasian blood cells that makes it harder for HIV to infect whites.

Other findings

The study also identified markers for high risk sexual behavior, including findings that 11 percent of the youth reported re-ceiving money or gifts for sex within six months of the study and nearly five percent were homeless at the time of the inter-

An estimated 35 percent of the men interviewed reported having been forced to have sexual contact against their will. Although the researchers were unable to delineate whether such coercive sexual ac-tivity occurred as early childhood sexual abuse, date rape, or other types of sexual abuse, Coates told the B.A.R. that youth under the age of 15 who report coercive sex with a partner ten years or older have "identifiable risk factors" for ehaviors leading to HIV infec

The vast majority of the youth

The vast majority of the youth reported having had unprotected anal sex; 30 percent said it was within six months of the interview. Sixteen percent reported having first had anal sex before the age of 14.

According to project coordinator Vince Guillin, the results of the study point out the efficacy of and continued need for − community-based intervention and peer-based outreach models in HIV prevention public health services. ▼

Tension marks retroviral conference in DC

by Bob Roehr

ecurity was tight and tem-pers flared as the 4th Con-ference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections opened Opportunistic infections opened in Washington, DC on January 22. Dozens of hulking plain-clothes security men, complete with Secret Service-type ear pieces and identifying lapel pins, manned the doors and escorted conference organizers from room conference organizers from room

Tensions have been bubbling for weeks. The conference, which has become the premier AIDS research meeting, has intentionally restricted itself to the capacity of the host hotel. That means prethe host hotel. That means pre-registration for the 2,500 slots (in-cluding staff, speakers, etc.). Last year, a number of people were turned away, and this year the waiting list had swelled to more than 500. They also tightened up on space for the press and banned marketing representatives from pharmaceutical companies. The loudest and most orga-nized grumbling came from AIDS activists. They were initially of-fered 15 scholarship slots, later upped to 20. They wanted more and thought they had gotten the number doubled through negoti-ations on Wednesday night. But that fell through. A Thurs-

But that fell through. A Thurs-day morning statement by ac-tivists Bill Bahlman of New York, Linda Grinberg of Los Angeles, and Bill Thorne of San Francisco charged, "Over 100 people with AIDS and their advocates were denied registration, and over 30



SF AIDS Foundation's Ron Baker (left) and ACT UP/Golden Gate's Rob Sabados network at the conference.

were turned away from the conference site, after being led to be-lieve they would be admitted, at an emergency meeting the previous night."

Conference chair Dr. Douglas

Conference chair Dr. Douglas Richman announced a half measure at a Thursday news conference. He said they had made arrangements for "an overflow room" with a projection of certain presentations which would be open to both activists and researchers who had hoped to get in searchers who had hoped to get in at the last moment. They could also view the poster sessions ma-terials at non-peak times.

And in a written statement the

conference steering committee said, "Approximately 150 scholar-

ship applications were received this year, which far exceeded our expectations based on previous years' interest." They placed their decisions within the context of an annual survey of conference par-ticipants as to what they want in terms of size, scope, and focus of

Richman was asked if the heightened security was because of threats of violence. "No physi-cal threats," he said. "We've re-ceived some unpleasant calls, some macho posturing, that have raised enough concern" for them to increase security. At the Van-couver AIDS conference in July, protesters from ACT UP/San Francisco threw mock blood on

Part way through the news conference, about 20 protesters outside in the hallway began chanting, "Let us in." They were allowed to distribute their news release, but not to enter the room, and were then ushered away. No arrests were made.

Bahlman is not satisfied. In his mind, limiting activists to 20 slots mind, limiting activists to 20 slots "told me, 'Don't even bother applying'. And I didn't. If I played by their rules, chances are I'd be in the conference right now. But I thought their rules and their game were unfair. One decision after another, compounded, has created an environment of districts and dissatisfaction. trust and dissatisfaction.

"It is the community that has fought for continued AIDS research funding. While other federal funding has been cut back drastically, AIDS funding has been maintained and has slightly grown." He believes they deserve a larger seat at this table.



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IFN-an3: the new treatment on the block

by Stephen LeBlanc, ACT UP/Golden Gate **Writers Pool**

hree times a week, Don N.
fills a small syringe with a
tiny amount of fluid, places
an ice-cube against his skin, and
gives himself an injection through
an ultra-thin insulin needle. He
believes the injection has helped
lower his viral load from around
2,000 conject of viral PNA partic lower nis viral load from around 2,000 copies of viral RNA particles per ml of blood, which he reached using triple drug combination therapy of AZT/d4T/Crixivan, to less than 10 copies for the last five months. He reports that the injections are painless, and he the injections are painless, and he has had no side effects. The drug he is using is not a newly discovered

AIDS therapy, but is a proven anti-viral that has been available by prescription since 1988, Interferon-alpha (IFN-a). And while many people with HIV gave up on IFN-a four years ago, Don is among a handful of people with HIV and AIDS researchers who believe that low doses of this previously abandoned anti-HIV drug is an important addition to combination AIDS therapy, but is ACT UP

portant addition to combination anti-HIV therapy that may help prevent the emergence of resistant HIV.

Interferons are a family of proteins that are naturally produced by human cells in the presence of viral infections. They are signaling proteins to a number of different immune system cells and other cells in the body and trigger a notcells in the body and trigger a not-fully-understood anti-viral re-sponse. Cells that have been ex-posed to IFN-a, in test tubes, are resistant to HIV infection and even when infected, appear to produce substances that interfere with the final assembly of viral proteins, so that infected cells pro-duce less virus

duce less virus.

Early clinical studies of IFN-a produced very mixed results.

Some studies claimed to find that Some studies claimed to find that increased levels of certain naturally occurring interferons were correlated with disease progression. Two groups of researchers reported at the XI International Conference of AIDS beneficial results from neutralizing naturally occurring IFN-a in later-stage AIDS patients, either through inducing an antibody response or by filtering interferons out of the blood. However, a number of combination studies, reported at the XI Conference and earlier, have repeatedly shown that administered IFN-a, in combination with other anti-virals, gives an with other anti-virals, gives an added boost in lowering viral load and delaying depletion of T-cells.

It is this proven effect that is causing a few researchers to want

causing a tew researchers to want to take a second look at the drug in light of newly available diagnostic tools, such as viral load tests, and a more sophisticated understanding of HIV disease.

'Works a different way'

"We starting recommending IFN-a in combination with AZT, DDI, and DDC for all people we

were following, before protease inhibitors were available and got very good results, especially in recently-infected subjects," reports Brad Saget, an HIV-researcher who along with Dr. Steve Scheibel is following some 40 patients with HIV who are using aggressive combination therapy including IFN-a.

"IFN-a is the only drug yet shown to be able to cure a chronic viral infection, hepatitis-C, in some people, and its anti-HIV efsome people, and its anti-HIV effects are proven," reports Saget.
"Two years ago, when there was nothing beside the nucleoside analogs, it seemed foolish to us not to use INF-a in combination with other anti-HIV drugs, to attack the virus at another stage in

tack the virus at another stage in its life cycle. Now, even with protease inhibitors, we think IFN-a is one key to bringing people we are following to below detection on viral load tests that can detect down to 10 copies per ml. We think that unless viral load is brought down to zero, there is a great

danger in most people of multi-drug resistant HIV eventually de-

danger in most people of manddrug resistant HIV eventually developing.

"Because INF-a works in a different way from other anti-HIV
drugs in reducing viral load,
cross-resistance with other available drugs is not a major concern,
and so we strongly recommend it
to people we are following." For
patients who wish to use it, Saget
recommends a dose of 1-2 million
units (MIUs) of INF-a, taken
three times per week.

One possible explanation for
the apparent benefit of INF-a
when used in certain combinations is evidence suggesting that
INF-a is particularly effective in
macrophages, a type of white
blood cells that Dr. David Ho and
other researchers have identified

blood cells that Dr. David Ho and other researchers have identified as an important long-lived reservoir of HIV in the body. As scientist have learned more about HIV in the past several years, it has become clear that HIV infection is composed of a number of different variants of HIV infecting a number of different cell populations. Each cell population infected has a different life cycle, and can react differently to some anti-HIV drugs.

According to the Ho model,

HIV drugs.

According to the Ho model, 90-99% of the HIV in a person's body is produced by CD4 cells that, when infected, live for only one to three days. This is why people starting protease inhibitor therapy can see such a sharp initial decline in their viral load when they begin therapy; infections.

tial decline in their viral load when they begin therapy: infected CD4 cells rapidly die off, and newly produced CD4s are protected from infection by good combination therapy.

However, most patients exhibit a detectable – though reduced – viral load, even in the presence of very good anti-viral therapy, that can last several months. Ho has postulated that this longer-lived viral load is produced by infected macrophages, which are known to live in the body much longer than infected CD4 cells.

INF-a appears to be effective at

reducing the amount of virus produced by infected produced by infected macrophages and at preventing new macrophages from becom-ing infected. Therefore, it may be an especially important addition to an anti-HIV cocktail by target-ing cells that do not respond as quickly to other anti-HIV thera-

Side effects

The downside to using IFN-a, The downside to using IFN-a, besides lingering uncertainty about its long-term benefit, is the side-effects. Initial symptomatic side effects of low-dose IFN-a may be mild flu-like symptoms the day after use, such as fever, fatigue, and muscle ache, Some tigue, and muscle ache. Some people develop a tolerance to these effects, while others may

According to a study at the Walter Reed Army Institute of Medical Research and published in the May 1996 Journal of Infec-tious Diseases, subjects receiving a dose of 1 MIU three times per week with no other anti-viral therapy showed an average 0.23 log reduction in viral load from baseline after 60 days of treatment, subjects receiving a dose of 5 MIU three times per week 5 MIU three times per week showed an average 0.58 log reshowed an average 0.38 log reduction, and subjects receiving the maximum individually tolerated dose, averaging 44 MIU per week, showed an average 1.86 log reduction in viral load from base-

line after 60 days of treatment.

These average results are somewhat less impressive when the individual study subject re-

Combination therapies have shown that IFN-a, with other antivirals, gives an added boost in lowering viral load and delaying depletion of T-cells.

need to take special action to avoid them. One way to minimize these symptoms is to take ordi-nary pain relievers like Motrin or Tylenol.

Individuals are sometimes also

Individuals are sometimes also advised to administer IFN-a in-jections at night, so as to sleep through any unpleasant side effects. More serious toxicities of INF-a use include suppressed white blood cell counts and liver those reflictives but these effects. abnormalities, but these effects are not common with low-dose

Recently, a new form of IFN-a, named IFN-an3, has been studa, named IFN-an3, nas been studied. According to early studies, IFN-an3 is associated with fewer side effects and has a 10- to 100-times more potent anti-HIV punch. IFN-an3 contains a mixture of different INF-a species derived from stimulation of human rived from stimulation of human immune system cells, rather than manufactured by recombinant genetic engineering, as are the currently available forms of the

sults are examined, however, besults are examined, however, because patients showed a wide variance of response to the drug. They do indicate that in some patients at least, IFN-an3, even used alone, has strong anti-HIV activity. The study also reported dramatically fewer side effects from use of IFN-an3 than from INF-

Where to get it

While the older form of INF-a is available by prescription, IFNis available by prescription, IPN-and is only currently available in clinical trials. In San Francisco, a clinical trial is being run at Virx, comparing INF-an3 to placebo in patients with fewer than 250 CD4 cells who are on any combination of approved anti-HIV drugs or on no anti-HIV drugs. The study lasts for 6 months, and at the end of the study period, subjects on placebo will be offered active

drug.

More information about the study is available from Virx at (415) 353-5623. ▼

HIV Council to form PWA group

Learns SF ADAP is broke

by Dennis Conkin

he city's \$4.68 million AIDS
Drug Assistance Program is
broke and borrowing
money from the city's General
Revenue Fund and other unrestricted fund accounts, according
to AIDS Office Prevention Chief
Dr. Gene Copello.
Copello made the announcement at the Monday, January 27
meeting of the Mayor's HIV Planning Council, which also heard a
proposal that the group form a
subcommittee comprised of peohe city's \$4.68 million AIDS

subcommittee comprised of peo-ple living with HIV.

The city expects to borrow an estimated \$1.8 million to keep the program "at utilization," to cover

costs of clients needing prescription assistance with AIDS drugs including protease therapies, triple combination drug treat-ments, and other new treatments.

"Once the state augmentation is available, we'll essentially pay back the unrestricted funds and also continue the program through the fiscal year," Copello said.

An estimated 2,200 are regis-

tered with the program, which provides essential AIDS medications for people unable to pay for them. According to AIDS Office statistics, between 900 and 1,100 people used the program to fill 3,991 prescriptions in November, the latest month for which statis-tics are available.

tics are available.

The proposal to form a group

made up of people living with HIV was introduced by member Bart Casimir, a longtime AIDS ad-vocate, who is himself a person living with HIV.

living with HIV.

According to Casimir, the subcommittee could serve as a link
between the larger community of
HIV consumers and the planning council.

Interested members of the council and the public, including consumers of HIV services, will meet to explore the formation of such a subcommittee Wednesday, February 5th.

A location for the meeting has not been announced, but will be available by calling Norm Nickens of the AIDS office at (415) 554-9000.

Help improve home care services for people with AIDS.

Have you been a primary home care provider for a person with AIDS in San Francisco at any time during the past 2 years? Did you provide this home care without any formal training or emotional support? If so, please help us. A one time focus (discussion) group will be held on Thursday February 6th at 6 p.m. in downtown San Francisco. The group will last about 2 hours, and each participant will received \$35 for their time. For more information please call BWA at 837.1100.

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If you're submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name on the back. If you include a SASE for the photo's return, write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap. All obituaries must include a contact name and phone number.

Deadline for all obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m.

Mario P. Britt June 24, 1963 – Oct. 12, 1996



No words could ever describe you...your smile, the way it lit up your face. Nothing could describe the absence of that smile, the way you could shut down and tune us all out. Like an island in

Few visitors were allowed, and then, not for long. Like an antenna to heaven, you transferred to us all a babe's innocent love of life. ..in every spin or pirouette on the dance floor or the kitchen floor –

it didn't matter. God bless the child, you

Doyle "Spring" Byington



snould remember him, for there goes one of us – so many gone already. Good-bye, Spring. Doyle's ashes will rest with his beloved parents at the family mau-soleum. Per his request, there will be no services.

Victor "Jay" Concordia Oct. 16, 1953 - Jan. 18, 1997



Jay passed away Saturday, January 18, in Orlando, Fla., from an AIDS-re-lated illness. His family had been with him until the time of his death. He is survived by his mother, Val;

stepmother, Marina; and siblings, Deb-bie, Evon, Frank, Linda, Robin, Tina and

bie, Evon, Frank, Linda, Robin, Tina and Tracy; and many loving friends. It is hard to put into words the sweetness of this man, Jay was kind to everyone. His good nature impressed you upon first meeting. He was a long-time survivor whose outlook on life was always to go with the second of the was always to go with the second of the was always to go with the second of the was always to go with the second of the was always to go with the second of the was always to go with the second of the was always to go with the second of the

time survivor whose outlook on lite was always positive.

Jay was an extremely creative person, and his artistic abilities in photography, window display, cooking and outrageous Halloween costumes gave him and the people around him great pleasure. This wonderful soul will be missed enormously.

The light of love and kindness shone through this man, and he will be remembered in our hearts always.

A rememberace service will be held at the National AIDS Memorial Grove in Golden Gate Park on Sunday, February 2, at noon. For information, call (415) 255-7504 or (415) 282-6501.

Alan Dion Hamby Dec. 18, 1966 – Jan. 9, 1997



He was born an angel and they broke his wings – yet he managed to fly.

When we met, he was 18, and I was 43. He became my boy, man and

partner.
We found love
in our cottage on the river. Even though
AIDS inflicted Job-like suffering on
him, he still managed to die at 30 complete and fulfilled. And my world ended.

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Prevention council votes to 'move forward' despite concerns

by Cynthia Laird

embers of the HIV Preembers of the HIV Prevention Planning Council informally voted 16 to 1, with three abstentions, to move forward in the aftermath of some members' concerns over how Dr. Mitch Katz, AIDS Office director, made his recommendations for funding 1997 prevention con-tracts, notably those for street outreach. The vote was conducted at the Thursday, January 23

ed at the Thursday, January 23 HPPC meeting.

The council held a special meeting with Katz on January 15, at which he faced tough questioning by some members who were concerned that he and the AIDS Office didn't follow the council's prevention plan in the Request for Proposal (RFP) process.

At issue was RFP #16 for "Activity Based HIV Prevention Programs." Some members were upset that the AIDS Office increased money to agencies they

creased money to agencies they considered inexperienced or that, in some cases, did not meet some

of the criteria. Other agencies that had been providing services and had experience in San Francisco

were cut drastically.
On January 21, the Health Commission Commission approved \$2,597,369 in federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) funds to be distributed to community-based organizations. The commission's final allocation was a compromise, apparently worked out between the AIDS Office and the various agencies, which restored funding to some of the agencies that suffered cuts and decreased funds to the agen-

and decreased tunds to the agen-cies Katz had previously recom-mended for more funds.

The compromise failed to please several people, including councilmember Steven Sams.

"I still don't know what the

steps were in reviewing RFPs," Sams said during the council's discussion following up on the meeting with Katz. "I don't know the criteria [used by Katz in his final recommendations], and I'm still uncomfortable with that." Councilmember Mark Peppler

said some things need to be clarified for future RFPs, such as whether people who sit on technical review committees to rate RFPs are supposed to be familiar with an agency submitting a proposal or whether they are supposed to be objective and not know about the agency soliciting the funds.

the funds.

"Where do we go from here?" asked council co-chair Ronnie Ashley/Chata. "I wasn't very pleased with the meeting at all. Many questions were not asked or answered. But for this year the door's open now; there's an opportunity to make changes."

Ana Claire Meyer, also a cochair, said she feels there has been closure. "I was at the Health Commission meeting and watched

mission meeting and watched them approve the contracts. They don't even know what we do," Meyer said. "For this year, it's over. The Health Commission listened

Ito public comments!"
But councilmember Saeul L'Adnbre disagreed. "I don't think we've been as insensitive to public comment as the Health Commission was," said L'Adnbre. "I want to eat to those who made public comment and public comment as the seat to those who made public comment as the seat to those who made public comments." to say to those who made public comment here, I was listening, I was hearing, and it made a differ-

In other matters, the council briefly discussed the 1997 HIV Prevention Plan for San Francisco that they developed. The nearly 700-page plan, which was released January 17, is expected to be more thoroughly discussed at the group's next meeting.

The prevention planning council's next meeting is Thursday, February 13 from 3 to 6 p.m. at First Unitarian Church, 1187 Franklin Street at Geary. The public is welcome.

In Memory of our longtime friend and colleague

George DeWoody (1945 - 1997)

Untold want by life and love ne'er granted, Now, voyager sail thou forth to seek and find.

Now, Voyager Travel

AIDS Office shifts policy

Members of the public can apply to be on RFP review committees

by Cynthia Laird

he San Francisco AIDS Of-fice announced Friday, Janu-ary 24 that it will accept names of people in the communi-ty who are interested in serving on ty who are interested in serving on a technical committee to review Requests for Proposals (RFP) for HIV/AIDS services and preven-tion contracts, if they have a level of expertise in any one of several

of expertise in any one of several service or prevention categories. It is important to realize, however, that people will not be selected immediately. Marcy Fraser, assistant chief of the health and prevention services branch, said that there are no RFPs currently awaiting review. A committee has already been selected for the Tenderloin RFP that will be reviewed in late February, she said.

Questions about that RFP review committee led Fraser and

view committee led Fraser and Gene Copello, chief of the health and prevention services branch, to respond by opening the process to the community. The shift in policy came just days after Copello told the B.A.R. he would "consider" the question of placing an-

er" the question of placing announcements about review committees in the paper.

Fraser asked that those who are interested send her a letter describing their particular area of expertise, such as prevention, HIV/AIDS housing, or alternative/complimentary therapies, to name just a few of the categories for which RFPs are submitted. Also include a description of prior work or volunteer experience, along with other pertinent inforalong with other pertinent infor-

"I'm always looking for more people to put into the database for future technical review committees," Fraser told the B.A.R. "We're also always looking for a good representation of women, people of color, and people with HIV. We want people representing the communities these proposals are targeting.

Time intensive

Putting a review committee to-gether is a lengthy process, pri-marily because of the need to find a day and time when everyone is available.

Those interested in sitting on a committee should also be prepared to invest their time, both in individually reviewing RFPs and individually reviewing RFFs and then meeting with other commit-tee members to score and rate all of the proposals as a team. "There is a commitment of time. It once took me an entire weekend," Fraser said, referring to the initial expisuing of proposals.

weekend, Fraser said, referring to the initial reviewing of proposals. "The pre-review can be a few hours, or up to eight to ten hours."

The next part of the process, a

team meeting, can range from two hours to all day, she said, adding, "Very few proposals are of the short variety."

In the group meeting, the RFPs

are reviewed, scored, and rated.
In addition to the above guidelines, Fraser said interested people need to be aware of criteria con

lo said last week that "the guiding principle is to eliminate conflict of interest" in forming the review

Committees that reviewed the recent prevention RFPs were made up of people from Alameda, Contra Costa, Santa Clara, and Marin counties, as well as people from San Francisco. ▼

Interested individuals should send the requested information to Fraser at the San Francisco AIDS Office, 25 Van Ness Avenue, Suite 500, San Francisco, CA 94102-6033.



SFA0's Marcy Fraser



one community many



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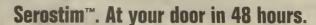
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Locker rheum

by Jim Provenzano

ave you seen those ads offering counseling for people who are afraid to go to the gym? I'm not going to make fun of such fears, because I've had them, particularly in high school when a naked thug assaulted me for noticing he was getting a boner. But that was a long time ago, and I forgive anyone who lives in a mobile home park in Polk, Ohio.

But I can understand people's ave you seen those ads of-

But I can understand people's fears and neuroses associated with locker rooms; losing your locker combination while soaking wet, draped only in a towel. I used to have such dreams, not exactly with transfer and the soak of nightmares, more boring puzzles, with maze-like locker rooms, end-less halls and strange echoing sounds, nubile athletes disappear-

sounds, nuble athletes disappearing around each corner...
Uh, okay. Thanks for sharing.
Anyway, let's move on to solving these fears. What we need are more opportunities for folks of all ages, shapes, colors and sizes to re-familiarize themselves with the exalting joy of being nude togeth-er in just such an environment, a kind of baptism by shower water.

And where can that be? A bathhouse in San Francisco. Think of a bathhouse as a sex club with a locker room. This cause de fevre can be subtextualized for readers. Think of it as an inside joke, our secret word. Any time I write LOCKER ROOM in future columns, just think to yourself, "San Francisco Bath-

The pros get LOCKER ROOMS. Amateurs get LOCKER ROOMS. Everybody gets LOCKER ROOM privileges. Sign up, pay up, or get on a team. That is the way it's been done.

But why is it that people of this city go ballistic at the prospect of a gay sexual arena that also offers gay sexual arena that also otters bathing facilities, or aquatic sexual facilities, not unlike a gym, pro ball LOCKER ROOM, or whatever your experience, favorite flavor, etc. and a potentially tacky lounge.

Milan has three bath-

houses. Florence has two. Rome has twelve oppor-tunities for casual indoor sex, half of them with showers, and a lower AIDS infection rate than our city. Pisa's has a glorious fountain out of The Last Days of Pompeii. Sydney and Mel-Sports Complex Sydney and Mel-bourne have veritable malls of bathhouse

malls of bathhouse pleasure. Phoenix, Albany, Berke-ley. Cleveland – every large city in the world but San Francisco has a bathhouse. Why is this? While we're wondering this, why, with hundreds of scenic hills

and lovely cul-de-sacs throughout our fair city, is outdoor cruising reour fair city, is outdoor cruising reduced to boringly inane areas like Ringold Alley and Collingwood Park? Why do San Francisco gays, for all their supposed liberation, behave like dogs rutting around in the same corner of the den?

The rest of the world is doing a better job than we are in some areas, like growing up whenever it's time to add a LOCKER ROOM to a sex club, or sex environment. Adding towels does not

ronment. Adding towels does not make it so, as Eros tries to imitate, but lacks for true liquidity, and

It is privacy they will not sell us in San Francisco. Using the premise that a private business is somehow responsible for any po-tentially unsafe sexual activity on premises is bullshit. Then you'd have to close down Beck's Motor Lodge, and all the bars where sex goes on, not to mention night-clubs, and then all those cruisy LOCKER ROOMS!!

People are gonna have sex somewhere, and in a lot of places you might not want to have it, but they're gonna do it, so you might as well let them do it in a safe environment where somebody's handing out towels and condoms. I imagine one of the hunks in the LOCKER ROOM in my old high school, this week, or some gay athlete somewhere in the world right now suiting up for compensations.

suiting up for competition, in like, Turkey, all these naked ath-

letes being together, communing. Nice image, huh? Isn't that what it's all about?

Isn't that what it's all about.

Apparently, however, in this town, it's about money, and turf, and misguided reactionary antisexual attitudes. With all the homos in town, you'd think there'd be room for more fun. But Mister "Blow-the-whistle-on-his-neighbor-Buddy's-party-and-call-ABC-because-you're-a-jealous-old-bitch" didn't think so.

old-bitch" didn't think so.
I'm speaking of the unofficial
Taste Patrol of our collective col-lectives and cabalistic cabals, who
despite their efforts, merely prey
on the tackiest and smelliest of sex clubs, each deserving a slap on the ass for sheer boredom. Maybe it's

ass for sheer boredom. Maybe it's the decor and privacy, or lack of either. (Note to all sex club stylists: take a lighting course!)

What's with the Puritanical separation between fitness and sexuality in a town that's supposed to be so sexually liberated? Why do sexual spaces have to be so dark, dismal, and tacky? What happened to good old-fashioned white tile? Can you look at this week's photo and explain to me

from 4 pm



Fun in the showers, as towels pop and the soap gets dropped.

again what it is that is not healthy

If not, you're probably a neo-fascist, or you're so sexually fucked up in your own way that you can't deal with other people's sexuality, so you want to make

them all suffer too.
Well, if I were Coach, I'd say, twenty laps for poor sportsmanship, Miss Thing, then off to the showers with you, and you can bet there's gonna be some towels snapping on your tired ass.

Leland House

◆ page 1

"It's urgently needed by the community. It's a 45-bed facility, and there are 2,000 people on the list for AIDS housing," Nelson

Had Levada not written to the mayor and set off the ensuing firestorm, people in the community would probably be focusing on the things Nelson talked about. Everyone who has spoken to the Bay Area Reporter about the controversy has said Leland House is greatly needed, and that Catholic Charities does a very good job providing HIV/AIDS services in the city. However, most of that has been overshadowed in recent weeks. Had Levada not written to the

Religious, health leaders resign

By now, the controversy has spread within the religious community. On Wednesday, January 22, James DeLange and Phyllis Zillhart, senior pastor and associate pastor respectively at St. Francis Lutheran Church in the city, sent a letter to the Most Reverend Patrick A. McGrath, secretary of the Catholic Charities board of directors. Initially, both were honored to serve on the host committee, they wrote.

St. Francis has provided services for people with HIV since the earliest days of the epidemic,

the pastors said.

"We recognize that the archbishop, as the legal owner of Leland House and the president of Catholic Charities, has the ultimate authority over its operation," DeLange and Zillhart wrote.
"It is, therefore, with great regret that we ask that our names be re-moved from the Honorary Host Committee. In protest of the arch-bishop's actions, we will not at-tend the grand opening cere-

monies.

"We will support the mission and ministry of Leland House and we will pray for its success," the pastors added.

The latest round of drop-outs was confirmed Friday, January 24. The B.A.R. has learned that host committee members Pat Christen, executive director of the San committee members Pat Christen, executive director of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation (SFAF), and Paul DiDonato, SFAF's director of policy, have resigned. Additionally, Laura Thomas, acting in her capacity as a co-chair of the Mayor's HIV Health Services Planning Council, has requested that her name be removed from the host committee. Thomas also works in the public Thomas also works in the public

policy department at SFAF.

"I fully support Catholic Charities' HIV housing programs,"

Thomas said. "I don't want to see

Thomas said. "I don't want to see any services for people with HIV/AIDS jeopardized, and I'm afraid the archbishop is jeopardizing [services]."

SFAF spokesperson Timothy Rodrigues said Christen and Di-Donato asked that their names be removed because of concerns over ensuring that the "rights of people are honored and protected. Those priorities are central to the work we do at the foundation."

Dr. Mitch Katz, director of the

Dr. Mitch Katz, director of the AIDS Office, is also listed as a member of the honorary host committee, along with Health Director Dr. Sandra Hernandez and Norm Nickens, assistant director at the AIDS Office.

"I haven't reviewed the issue. After I've reviewed it, I'll give you a call back," Katz said when contacted by the B.A.R. Hernandez and Nickens did

not return phone calls asking for their comments on the issue.

Open letter to Levada

This past week, however, peo-ple representing the other side of the issue also spoke out. Several members of the Leland commit-tees said they will remain on those groups because they feel the need for AIDS housing and support services outweighs their dissatisfaction at the archbishop's re-

quest.

On Friday, steering committee member Frederick Hobson was joined by fellow member Paul Melbostad, and by host committee members Howard Wallace, Pat Norman, Arlin Weinberger, Supervisor Dr. Leland Yee, and Ruth Painker, in writing weaps letter. Brinker, in writing an open letter to Levada. They voiced strong sup-port for Leland House, but said they're outraged at his request.

"We have chosen to continue

we have chosen to continue our support of the Leland House project because we feel it will serve an essential social need," they wrote. "At the same time, we share the passion and outrage that compel others involved to speak out."

Hobson, who has AIDS, said he and the other supporters were adamant both in support for the project and in opposition to Levada's action.

ada's action.

"The archbishop should not mistake our staying on the committee as support for his request for an exemption," Hobson told the B.A.R. "We find his request reprehensible."

The Leland House grand opening takes place from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the facility, located at 141 Leland Avenue. For more information, call Catholic Charities at (415) 442-

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NTFAP

ture" because members decided they must do something so that the disease doesn't dictate what

I find it intolerable that this "I find it intolerable that this disease has lasted over 15 years. I find it intolerable that young people become infected even before they can drive a car," Williams said.

Gay men of color account for over half the AIDS cases within communities of color; and the

HIV infection rates for gay men of color are escalating out of control, he explained.

he explained.

AIDS, said Williams, "has almost become business as usual," with many people getting "bogged down in the rhetoric."

"We are held captive by our internalized borrowhold in the said.

ternalized homophobia just as we are put down by other people's racism. There are people dying in the streets outside this very build-ing," he said, "Divas and egos wedge barriers between hopelessness and life. As a person living with this dis-ease, I find that intolerable." Also appearing at the recep-

tion was James Hormel, openly gay civic leader and multimillionaire heir to the Hormel meatare their to the Hormel meat-packing fortune. Hormel was an early supporter of the campaign, and made a very generous finan-cial contribution. "This is an extremely, extreme-

ly important project. Of paramount importance is to save lives," Hormel said. "The goals are

commendable."
Chris Sandoval, vice president of the NTFAP board, spoke about the need for the campaign and the importance of "vision," a word people hear over and over when talking about the epidemic.

Harold Rasmussen, from the

state Office of AIDS, told the group that "Recreating Our Future" means a great deal to his office. "This year the state office

"This year the state office fought off attacks to take prevention funds. To me, prevention dollars are sacred. We should speak to be identicated to the same sacred. lars are sacred. We should speak to legislators to give us enough money," Rasmussen said. "This is a time to really, really kick ass with AIDS prevention. Now is the time

to step up, not step down."

The president of NTFAP's board, H. Alexander Robinson of

Washington DC, encouraged peo-ple to make pledge donations to the campaign. Robinson, a mem-ber of the President's Advisory Council on AIDS, said he told fellow members about the campaign and discussed the council taking a position on ending the epidemic. "That challenge met with a lot of resistance. I said, 'If we're not

ending the epidemic, what are we doing?" Robinson said. Other board members in atten-

dance were Esteban Barnaby of Oakland, Curtis Harris of New York, Carrie Farrell of Boston, and Christopher Bates of Washington DC. After introducing them, Robinson said that NTFAP is looking to expand the board and diver-sify it.

"We intend to add some

sify it.

"We intend to add some women," he said, which drew a shout of approval from one of the women in the audience. ▼

Contributions to "Recreating Our Future" can be sent to: NTFAP, 973 Market Street, Suite 600, San Francisco, CA 94103. For more information, call NTFAP at (415) 356-8127.

Kico Govantes

◆ page 16

'Accentuate the obvious'

Govantes, a former mainstay at Gump's downtown art gallery, has Gump's downtown art gallery, has been on disability since the early '90s because of AIDS. He is well-known to art buyers around the world, both for his business of buying and selling contemporary American art and for his own ex-tensive art collection that also in-cludes early American and Latin cludes early American and Latin

cludes early American and Latin American – primarily Cuban – art. "I was a good salesman," he said. "I had million dollar years at Gump's. To this day I still have a lot of Gump's customers asking me if I can find them that Deibenkorn or Thiebaud and I try

Debenkern of Thiebaud and Try
to accommodate them," he says.
Despite the devastation of
AIDS and the loss of three lovers,
Govantes says that his art – and his life - are informed by a sensibility that he learned from his grandmother.

"'No alimentes las penas," he said. "Don't empower what could

have been. It's a very powerful way

of being.

"It's a philosophy that has helped me through this night-mare," Govantes said. "I've batted a thousand: of three lovers, three are dead." He has been with his current

partner, Joe Istre, for six years.

Represented by Terrain
Gallery, Govantes said he thinks
the job work of the artist is to "accentuate the obvious," and that he
wants people to enjoy his art for

what it is.
"I would hope that it would make them stop and look and smile and give them a sense of the moment, a sense of 'here I am,' and not thinking about where they have been or where they are going for a moment," he laughed. "That's what I would like."

Las Oras del Dio can be seen along Market Street from the Embarcadero to Van Ness Avenue through February 27, and are visible from the pedestrian walkway only. The kiosk advertising space was provided by Gannett Outdoor Advertising

BAY A REAR EPORTER SSIFIE

LEGAL NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 210342 STATEMENT FILE NO. 210342
The following person(s) are doing business as RHYS, 2215R Market St. #115, San Francisco, CA 94114: Robert C. Drapeau, 140 Scott St., San Francisco, CA 94117. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of November 1, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Robert C. Drapeau. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on January 3, 1996.
Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 210326 STATEMENT FILE ND. 210326
The following person(s) are doing business as HIROSHI TAKAMA PHOTOGRAPHY, 925 Sutter St., #305, San Francisco, CA 94109: Hiroshi Takama, 925 Sutter St., #305, San Francisco, CA 94109. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of NAA. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Hiroshi Takama. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on January 2, 1997.

Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30, 1996.

Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT FILE NO. 210263
The following person(s) are doing business as JBH MANAGE MENT, 35 Walter Apt. 2, San Francisco, CA 94114: James Bradford Hinckley, 35 Walter St. Apt. 2, San Francisco, CA 94114. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of December 31, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Brad Hinckley, This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on December 31, 1996.
Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 210130 The following person(s) are doing business as LATITUDES STORE AND CAFE, 2361 California Street #11, San Francisco, CA 94115: Ron Kirkpatrick, 2361 California Street, #11, San Francisco, CA 94115: Registreet, #11, San Francisco, CA 94115: Registrant(s) commenced business under the above filtritions business ame on the date trant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by a general partnership. Signed Ron Kirkpatrick. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on December 23, 1996.

Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30 1997.

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT
OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS STATEMENT FILE NO. 201627
The following person has abandoned the
use of the ficticious business known as
FLOWER POWER MARKET, 2264 Market St., San Francisco, OA 94114.
The ficticious name referred to above was
filed in the County of San Francisco on
January 22, 1996.
Name and Address of resistrant:

Name and Address of registrant: RICHARD M. CUNNINGHAM, 19 Forest

Side Ave, San Francisco, CA 94127. This business was conducted by an individual. Signed: RICHARD M. CUNNINGHAM. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of San Francisco County on the San Francisco County on the Marian County of the Marian County of the Marian County of the Marian County Clerk Recorder, by Keith Wong. Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30, 1997.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 983762

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of LUIS ALBERTO VASQUEZ PORRAS for change of name. The application of LUIS ALBERTO VASQUEZ PORRAS for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that LUIS ALBERTO VASQUEZ PORRAS has filed an application proposing that HIS name be changed to LUIS ALBERTO PORRAS. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department X-4 on the 20th day of Febuary, 1997, at 9 o'-clock AM, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of this Order be published in the BAY AREA REPORTER, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once a week for four consecutive weeks prior to the day of said hearing, Dated this 3rd day of January, 1997.

Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30, 1997. weeks prior to the day of said hearing Dated this 3rd day of January, 1997. Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30, 1997.

STATEMENT FILE NO. 2.10641
The following person(s) are doing business as SAV-0N-FLOORS, 191 Duncan Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94110: Mario E. Garcia, 191 Duncan Street, San Francisco, Ca. 9410: Practice of the Street, San Francisco, Ca. 9410: Septiment of the Street, San Francisco, Ca. 9410: Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of 1/14/97. This business is conducted by an Individual. Signed Mario E. Garcia. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on December 14, 1997.
Jan. 23, 30, Feb. 6, 13, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 210594 STALEMENT FILE NO. 210594
The following person(s) are doing business as 1. TIN-PAN RESTAURANT, Z. TIN-PAN RESTAURA ary 13, 1997. Jan. 16, 23, 30, Feb. 6, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 210564 The following person(s) are doing business as GHISELLI PROPERTIES, 3737 Fillmore St., San Francisco, CA 94123: Anne Ghiselli, 791 Titust Dr., Incline Village, NV 89450. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Anne Ghiselli. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco C.A. on January 10, 1997 Francisco, CA on January 10, 1997. Jan. 16, 23, 30, Feb. 6, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 210565 The following person(s) are doing business as CIMARELLI PROPERTIES, 1359 Bay

LEGAL NOTICES

St., San Francisco, CA 94123: Alfred Cimarelli, 1359 Bay St., San Francisco, CA 94123: Nina Cimarelli, 1359 Bay St., San Francisco, CA 94123: Nina Cimarelli, 1359 Bay St., San Francisco, CA 94123: Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictituos business name on the date of December 27, 1996. This business is conducted by a husband and wife. Signed Alfred Cimarelli and Nina Cimarelli. This statement was filled with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on January 10, 1997.

Jan. 16, 23, 30, Feb. 6, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 210561 STATEMENT FILE NO. 210561
The following person(s) are doing business are DODEC (TV 20URNAL, 853 Fell St., Son Francisco, CA 94117: Andrew Allen Wagner, 853 Fell St., San Francisco, CA 94117: Stephanie Suzanne Ray, 853 Fell St., San Francisco, CA 94117: Registrant(s) commenced business under stationary 1, 1997. This business is conducted by a general partnership. Signed Andrew Wagner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on January 10, 1997. Jan. 16, 23, 30, Feb. 6, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 210515 STATEMENT FILE NO. 210515
The following person(s) are doing business
as MIKE SELTZER. A MANUAL LABOR
ER. 4124 Mission St., San Francisco, CA
94112-1518: Michael J. Seltzer: 1191.
Bowdoin St., San Francisco, CA 94134.
Registrant(s) commenced business under
the above fictitious business name on the
date of NIA. This business is conducted by
an individual. Signed Michael J. Seltzer.
This statement was filed with the County
Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on January 9, 1997. cisco, CA on January 9, 1997. Jan. 16, 23, 30, Feb. 6, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 210440 The following person(s) are doing business as ALLEGRO MUSIC PRODUCTIONS: 740A 14th St., #429, San Francisco, CA 94114: Joel Benjamin Adlen, 219 Dolores St., San Francisco, CA 94103. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of January 7, 1997. This business is con-

Notice of Public Meetings and Opportunity to serve on the Mid Market Project Area Committee Announcing elections for the **Project Area Committee (PAC)**

A Project Area Committee(PAC) is being formed to participate in the proposed Mid Market Redevelopment Project

If you live or own a business or property within the proposed Mid Market Project Area, or are a community organization serving the proposed project area, you are eligible to vote and/or be elected as a PAC member. The proposed Mid Market Project Area is bounded at 4th street to the east: extending one block north of Market street, reaching Minna to the south until 9th street, down to Howard street and west to the Central Freeway, McCoppin and Octavia streetsR.

The PAC is a community elected citizen's advisory group of residential tenants, residential owner-occupants, business owners, property owners, and representatives of community organizations who reside within, own property or a business within the MidMarket Redevelopment Project Area or who represent a community organization serving the area. The primary purpose of the PAC is to develop the proposed redevelopment plan and to advise the San Francisco Redevelopment Agency and Board of Supervisors on matters relating to the adoption and implementation of the redevelopment plan.

The Mid Market PAC will have 29 members in six categories: Residential Tenant(3 seats), Residential Owner/Occupant(3 seats), Business Owner/Commercial (5 seats), Business Owner/Property Owner(10 seats)' and Community Organizations(8 seats).

If you have a disability that prevents you from voting in person and you desire to cast an absentee ballot, please call (415) 749-2507 as soon as possible.

The San Francisco Redevelopment Agency invites you to attend the following meetings in connection with the formation of the PAC:

MEETING	DATE, TIME & PLACE	PURPOSE
1. Public Information Meeting	Wed. / FEB. 12, 1997 4-6 pm 1355 Market St., 9th floor	To discuss how to become a candidate and how to vote in the PAC election.
2. PAC Election Meeting	Wed. / FEB. 26, 1997 4-8 pm 1355 Market St., 9th floor	*To hear the statements of the candidates for election to PAC 4:00 - 6 pm *To vote on election of PAC members 6:00 - 8 pm

Your attendance at these meetings is important to you, your neighborhood, and the City. We hpoe to see you at the meetings. If you have questions, please contact Gail Goldman at (415) 749-2480

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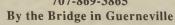


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ducted by an individual. Signed Joel Adlen. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on January 7, 1997.

Jan. 16, 23, 30, Feb. 6, 1997.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

TO Whom It May Concern:
The Name(s) of the Applicants(s) is/are:
BALTAR, JULIO AN RAMIREZ, REINALDO E. The applicants listed above are applying to the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control to sell alcoholic beverages
at: 635 CLAY ST., SAN FRANCISCO, CA
94111. For the following type of 1 lennexe. 41: 635 CLAY ST., SAN FRANCISCO., 94111. For the following type of License: 41 ON-SALE BEER AND WINE-EATING. San Francisco District Office, 185 Berry St Ste 5600, San Francisco, CA 94107.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 210709

STATEMENT FILE NO. 210709
The following person(s) are doing business as THE KINSEY SICKS, 355 Arguello
Blvd., San Francisco, CA 94118: Irwin E.
Keller, 355 Arguello Blvd., San Francisco, CA 94118: Irwin E.
Keller, 355 Arguello Blvd., San Francisco, CA 94118: Jerome Friedman, 71 Prosper
Street, San Francisco, CA 94114: Maurice
Kelly, 4517 18th Street, San Francisco,
CA 94114. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictilious business
ame on the date of Jan. 9, 1997. This
business is conducted by a general partnership. Signed Irwin E. Keller. This statement was filled with the County Clerk of the
City and County of San Francisco, CA on
January 16, 1997.
Jan. 30, Feb. 6, 13, 20, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 210797 The following person(s) are doing business as ENTERTAINMENT SPORT ARTS, 2234 Judah St., San Francisco, CA 94122: Helen Klepatsky, 2234 Judah St.,

San Francisco, CA 94122. Registrant(s) San Francisco, CA 741.ZZ. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Jan. 21, 1997. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Klepatsky. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on January 21, 1907. ary 21, 1997. Jan. 30, Feb. 6, 13, 20, 1997.

STATEMENT FILE NO. 210847
The following person(s) are doing business as TURNER BARREIT, 2927 Moraga St., San Francsico, CA 94122: Jim Ferguson, 2928 Moraga St., San Francisco, CA 94122. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Jan. 22, 1997. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Irwin E. Keller. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, Ca on January 22, 27, 1977.

Jan. 30, Feb. 6, 13, 20, 1997.

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT
OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS STATEMENT FILE NO. 188357
The following person has abandoned the use
of the ficticious business known as MASKS
BY ROJO, 117 Lexington #3, San Francisco, CA 94110.
The ficticious name referred to above was
filed in the County of San Francisco on July
28, 1994.
Name and Address of registrant: ANDRES
H, ROJO, 1171 Lexington #3, San Francisco

The of the County of San Francisco on July 28, 1994.

Name and Address of registrant: ANDRES H. ROJO, 1JT Lexington #3, San Francisco, CA 94110. This business was conducted by an individual.

Signed: ANDRES ROJO.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of San Francisco County on the San Francisco County on the date January 15, 1997. Gregory J. Diaz, County Clerk Recorder, by Keith Wong.

Jan. 30, Feb. 6, 13, 20, 1997.

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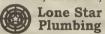
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Derek Jacobi stars in docudrama about the life and work of queer, World War II cryptographer Alan Turing.

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Chabrol's 'Cérémonie' underscores the perils of upper-class privilege.

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David Arquette talks about what it took to play a male prostitute.



BAYAREA REPORTER ARTS& ENTERTAI

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Flesh peddlers

Hustler redux in Scott Silver's 'johns'

by Robert Julian

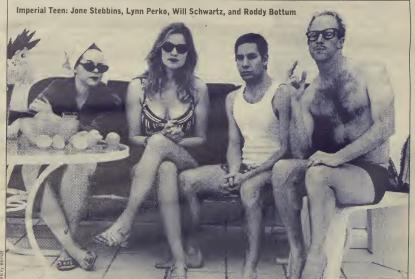
ohns, a new film by writer/director Scott Silver, is the latest entry in the growing cinematic catalog that seeks to illuminate the world of the male hustler. In this instance, the protagonists (played by Lukas Haas and David Arquette) work a seedy stretch of Santa Monica Boulevard along the eastern edge of Hollywood. They are old enough to prostitute themselves, but not old enough to legally order a mixed drink in a bar. Runaways, dropouts and petty thieves, they ply their trade and sleep in doorways, charting a miserable course through a land of outcasts.

When it is not boring, johns is merely depressing. The film takes place on Christmas Eve as John (Arquette) wakes up in a park to find his money and shoes missing. Christmas is John's birthday, and he needs to recover the money so he can spend just one night celebrating at a luxury hotel. Donner (Haas), a fellow hustler, has a crush on John, and he's determined to help in any way he can. The two men, often working at cross-purposes, set out to solve their mutual dilemma by begging, borrowing, pawning or hustling for what they need. Scott Silver succeeds in creating a character-driven vehicle for his two leads, and both Haas and Arquette turn in credible performances. David Arquette is yet another of the seemingly endless stream of acting Arquette siblings who, taken together with grandpa Cliff, constitute the low-rent Barrymores of the New Hollywood. Arquette's John is not overthy gay – he's simply desperate. He has a girlfriend whom he ignores, and he's vaguely annoyed by Donner's attentions.

John displays all the tics and mannerisms of someone with drug and alcohol problems, but this is not supported by the action of the film. And although the profession *de jour* is hustling, there is very little sex of any kind in johns. The



Queer power-pop Imperial Teen: punchy and literate



by John Blanco

his next one is for all the 80-year-olds writing pop songs,"

his next one is for all the 80-year-olds writing pop songs," said Imperial Teen singer/guitarist Will Schwartz mid-set at the band's Great American Music Hall show last week. Schwartz's snide comment was a response to a recent SF Weekly article that suggested the members of Imperial Teen, most of whom are in their 30s, are too old to be writing pop songs.

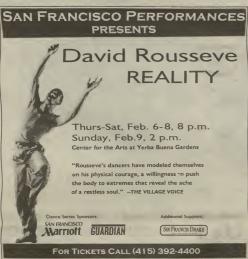
The truth is there aren't many 20-year-old popsters who could write songs as smart and edgy as those of Imperial Teen. And what 20-year-old could address being gay as comfortably and matter of factly as Imperial Teen's chief lyricist, Roddy Bottum? Homoeroticism pervades nearly every song on the band's critically-lauded debut album of last year, Seasick, and yet no song is strictly about being gay. Instead, Bottum casually drops gay references where you least expect them, like on the band's opening theme song, where he admits, "I'm a Liberace fan, too"; or on "Butch," Bottum's song about his friendship with Kurt Cobain, in which he coos, "Kiss me like a man, boy." like a man, boy.

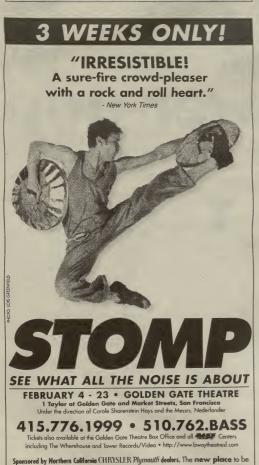
Bottum has said that he started Imperial Teen in order to expre Bottum has said that he started Imperial Teen in order to express himself as a singer and songwriter, something he hadn't been able to do in the decade-plus he spent as keyboardist for the San Francisco band Faith No More. When forming Imperial Teen, Bottum enlisted another local musician in need of a side project, drummer Lynn Perko of Sister Double Happiness, and two friends, guitarist Schwartz and bassist Jone Stebbins, neither of whom had any real musical experience. The band's idea was to play together to extermusical experience. The band's idea was to play together to enter-tain themselves, and if the looseness and camaraderie of their per-

page 39 ▶

OF TWO SECTIONS







by Chris Culwell and Pithy Galore

e always thought there was something suspiciously queenly about Frugal Gourmet celebrity Jeff Smith. Remember how he used to hold that turkey baster? Remember those neat little aprons with the fanciful designs? Remember the way he used to insert his meat thermometers with that far-away look in his eyes? Well, we've just learned from a little we've just learned from a little bird that the once-famous mahatma of haute cuisine has been accused of sexually abusing two teenage boys more than 20 years ago in Tacoma, Washington. The now 36-year-old accuser says Smith forced him into sexual relations using such age-old ploys as alcohol, drugs, and threats of physical violence. The suit also names several other people as defendants, including Smith's wife, who apparently knew that hubby was sampling all the local meats but chose to remain silent about hubby's indiscretions.

Clara Bell, the angry cow

Oh, that incredible Rosie
O'Donnell. She's just so perky
and with it. But wait, what's this?
Rosie has broken up with her
girlfriend, thrown her out of the
house, and won't allow her to see
their adopted child, Parker?
Wall they'r not year your of Well, that's not very rosy of

The story, as we've learned it from tabloid reports and a story on the Internet, is that Rosie's ex, Michelle Blakely, asked her TV-star lover to marry her shortly be-fore Christmas, but Rosie, ever fore Christmas, but Rosie, ever worried about ratings, turned her down, saying, "What will people think in the Midwest?" When Michelle subsequently went off to spend the holidays with her family, Rosie, angry at being deserted at this sensitive time of the year, packed up her belongings and hurled them in the street.

To take her mind off these sordid contretemps. Rosie is report-

To take her mind off these sor-did contretemps, Rosie is report-edly putting in lots of overtime on her talk show. Underlings say it's hell, as her office has become an ocean of mouldering pizza boxes, Pepsi cans, and Burger King bags. What's more, she's re-portedly fired at least 30 people, and the ax hasn't yet finished and the ax hasn't yet finished swinging.

Mommie dearest

Oh, that incredible Madonna Not only is she the world's most glamorous movie actress, she's glamorous movie actress, she's also a singer, producer, and cultural icon. But wait, what's this? Madonna threw baby **Lourdes** across the room? Well, yes, but not quite. Apparently concerned over the proximity of adoring fans to her newborn babe, the singer/actress has begun carrying a decoy — a hard rubber Lourdes lookalike (complete with infant Ray Bans) — to her various public events. At one such event last week in New York, when Madon-na marched backstage for a make-up session, she hurled the Koroseal analog in the general di-Notice a alrady in the general ur-rection of her copious retinue. When no one caught the Ur-baby and it slammed into a concrete wall, unknowing hangers-on thought they were witnessing a meltdown of Crawfordesque dimensions

Where is the real Lourdes, you ask? Her exact whereabouts no one seems to know, but when last spotted, the infant when last spotted, the inian was being rushed into an enormous van with blackened, bullet-proof windows by an army of nurses in SWAT gear. We pity this child and hope she never develops she never develops Out a fondness for wire

Talkin' the talk

If you've been wondering what art wizard **Jeff Koons** is up to these days, you can find out in the February issue of *Interview* magazine. **Ingrid Sischy** has a magazine. Ingrid Sischy has a heart-to-heart with the artist, who's been hard at work in his New York studio putting together a new show, Celebration, which will be unveiled at the Guggen-heim in late '97. People who dis-miss Koons as a mere kitschmeis-ter, a soulless huckster out to make a buck, should read this piece, in which Koons talks about the inspiration for his sculptures and paintings, the craftspeople with whom he works closely to realize them, and the "gestalt" he seeks in each piece. If Koons is a huckster, the recondite aura he draws around his work suggests he's a darn clever one.

Guest larynx

Someone else who's been lying low these days is actress Jodie Foster, who has learned that the best way to stop those nagging rumors about homosexuality is rumors about homosexuality is to disappear, stay out of view, become a recluse. To this end, it's only the actress' voice — not all of Jodie — that will guest-star on this Sunday's episode of the badly faltering X Files. Foster's larynx will be used as the voice of a tattoo that persuades a man to commit murder.

Love-hate relationship

Director Jane Campion's mera is so in love with Nicole camera is so in love with Nicole Kidman's face in The Portrait of A Lady that you get the feeling the two women were having quite a fling during the making of the film. In actuality, though, their relations were strained, Kidman and Campion frequently locking borns aver how to ly locking horns over how to shape the character of Isabel Archer. The big problem for the two, however, came at the beginning of their collaboration. Apning of their collaboration. Apparently, Campion had told Kidman early on that she was a

shoo-in for the lead, but then got cold feet after viewing Kidman's work in films like Batman and Malice, proficient flicks each, but hardly challenging for an actor. Even To Die For, which features Kidman's best work, didn't do much to impress Campion, whose footdragging on the casting of Isabel so incensed Kidman that, according to the New York Times, she threw several tantrums in front of the director and called her a "terrible person." shoo-in for the lead, but then got

"terrible person."

The two managed to work out their differences, howev-er, and their flat re-make of James' masterpiece is now film history. Campion and Kidman don't seem to mind all the negative press, however, as the two

are hard at work on their next collaboration, a screen adaptation of Susanna Moore's best-selling thriller In the Cut, a tale of love and murder in which "the firstand murder in which the inst-person narrator [Kidman] tells the story of her passion and abasement." Let's hope this time that Campion, ever in pursuit of art, doesn't forget to leave in the

Kudos for Dong

There

A big winner at last week's Sundance Film Festival was gay Sundance Film Festival was gay San Francisco filmmaker **Arthur Dong**, best known for his 1993 documentary *Coming Out Under Fire*, about homos in the military during World War II. Dong took top honors this year in the docutop honors this year in the docu-mentary category for his new film, Licensed to Kill, an unsettling journey into the minds of men who have murdered homo-sexuals. The film is a combination sexuals. The film is a combination of elements — interviews with the killers, videotaped confessions, news reports, evidence from police files, videos of gay bashings and killings, etc. Dong says he was inspired to make the film more than 20 years ago, after he was beaten up by a gang of gay-bashing teenagers. Licensed to Kill will appear in this year's Asian-American Film Festival in March. March

We were being flip a few weeks ago when we joked in this col-umn about "Fagonics," a special dialect queens use to identify, bond with, or crucify homosexuals. Well, we're finding out now that, like the whole Ebonics dethat, fike the whole Ebonics debate, there's more to this subject than first imagined. In fact, **Rahm Fudge**, a producer/reporter for QTV, our local queer television newsjournal, recently took to the streets of the Castro armed with a video camera to query locals about what he calls "Gayonics." about what he cans "agyonics." The results are as amusing as they are insightful. Check it out. QTV airs on Channel 47 (at 7 p.m.) on Tuesday, February 4. ▼



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one community many faces



Tricks of the trade

David Arquette got streetwise for 'johns'

by David Lamble

ctor David Arquette sits in a hotel bar nursing a big martini — probably not the first drink of the day, a day filled with talking to guys like me. A huge olive floats to the top of his vodka and vermouth brew, where it will remain unmolested during our hour together. We're alone inside the Hotel Rex's ballroom, whose iron lung-like airconditioning system provides the unsettling atmospherics for this otherwise pleasant encounter.

unsettling atmospherics for this otherwise pleasant encounter.
Screen actors are often disappointingly less than life size, but Arquette more than fills the frame—he has the face and body of a tough guy. Not surprisingly, his resume is half-filled with westerns, including the acclaimed Dead Man's Walk, Larry Mc-Murtry's "prequel" to the miniseries Lonesome Dove. More re-

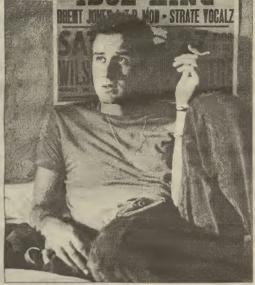
cently, however, Arquette, who belongs to the Arquette dynasty that includes Rosanna, Patricia, and tres gay brother Alexis, has been stretching a bit. In his latest film, Scott Silver's darkly comic johns, Arquette plays a young Santa Monica street hustler who is determined to celebrate his 21st birthday in style. The film opens here this week.

termined to celebrate ins 21st birthday in style. The film opens here this week.

Arquette might seem an odd choice to play the part of a street hustler, but the casting is actually right on the money. In fact, the 25-year-old actor grew up in one of the raunchier sections of Hollywood, where he confesses to spending a large part of his youth hanging out with street kids defacing public buildings with graffiti art and beating up rent boys, often, he says, "just for the hell of it." Despite his familiarity with the seamier side of life, however, Arquette says he had to prepare for his role in johns. To this end, the actor spent two months on the streets of Santa Monica observing how street hustlers live and work. It was an experience that changed his life.

The actor reveals that hanging out with the boys of the night has

The actor reveals that hanging out with the boys of the night has given him critical insight into both his own personality and the world around him. For a long time, Arquette admits, he had hang-ups about homosexuality, but getting to know gay guys who work the streets, and seeing for himself that gay male prostitutes often attract even more abuse than their female counterparts, helped get him past that barrier. "It was unreal," he says, "you'll be out on the street and people will throw bottles at you." Having a gay brother didn't hurt, either. "I saw how people treated Alexis in school, and how hard it was on him and how hard it is on most kids who are gay or just different



David Arquette in johns

in any way. Kids are very cruel."

Spending time on the streets also shed light on the head games hustlers must play in order to live with what they do. "I met guys on the street who would say, 'Yeah, I'm straight,' and then they'd introduce you to their girlfriends, who turned out to be transvestites. To them, that's straight because they're not with another guy, they're with a girl in a guy's body. I mean it's so convoluted out there, so twisted that it's hard to put your finger on what is actill seried the straight of the straight of

tually going down sometimes."

Equally difficult to understand, says Arquette, are the dy-

namics between hustlers and johns. "Some hustlers have this Pretty Woman fantasy that someone is going to come and sweep them off their feet. Others have a real hatred for johns — they just want to beat them up or take their money. Personally, I feel that hustlers and johns are both abused, and for various reasons are incapable of expressing their feelings."

Arouette relates that he had

Arquette relates that he had many provocative encounters while doing research for the film. On one occasion a john tried to pick him up. The actor says that's when he realized there were limits to method acting. Nevertheless, he admits to doing lots of looking at women in LA strip clubs, an experience that eventurally forced him to see his own actions as contributing to a repressive and sexist industry.

The biggest thrill in making johns came while the actor was filming the climactic scene, wherein he dances for a psychotic trick in a sleazy motel room. If left like a stripper," says Arquette, who makes an unlikely Salome in the present context. "I remember thinking that there was a point in the scene where I felt God-like while I was dancing for him. At one point I remember we stopped, and I put my head up and really felt some kind of higher power. The hair stood up on my arms and I shuddered for a second inside. It comes across on the screen if you watch very closely."

comes across on the screen if you watch very closely."

Although johns has earned audience acclaim and prizes at film festivals throughout the world, Arquette wonders if the hype about the film isn't tapering off a bit too early. Still, hit or no hit, Arquette puts the making of this film high on his list of unforgetable experiences. Not only did it allow him to come to terms with his own internalized homophobia, but he made a good friend in co-star Lukas Haas, whose "Bambi-like sincerity," says the actor, is more than mere acting. After an hour of this tape-recorded soul searching, Arquette explains that he needs a little "private space." Before I know it, he's returned to the bar and I'm back on the street. \to \tag{\text{V}}

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iohns

■ Arts cover

film opens and closes with bookend blowjobs and otherwise progresses with a series of aborted encounters with men who are all named John. Writer/director Silver apparently spells symbolism with a capital "S."

Doppelganger Donner is a

Doppelganger Donner is a young Jewish queer boy, thrown out by his physician father when he announces he's gay. Inexperienced and lonely, he's a pathetically inept hustler, a fact made clear by one of the film's two very funny segments. In this one, Donner gets picked up by a septuagenarian John who wants to spank him. As they drive around Los Angeles, Donner refuses the request, and the old geezer proceeds to slap him around for free. ceeds to slap him around for free. The other humorous moment comes when John goes to a Hancomes when John goes to a Fran-cock Park mansion to visit an old client played by Elliott Gould. It's wonderfully ironic to see the fat, geeky Gould kissing and pawing John, especially given the talk about the sexual inclination of

John, especially given the talk about the sexual inclination of Gould's (and Barbra Streisand's) real-life son, Jason.

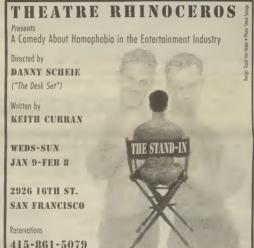
Johns succeeds in portraying the alienation of urban street punks and their need for extraordinary survival skills. It also offers an interesting reversal of an old formula as the two hustlers plan to escape Hollywood for a new life in Eureka Springs, Arkansas. And blues legend Charles Brown provides a wonderfully evocative score.

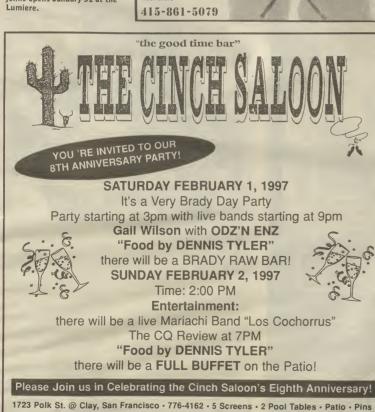
However, all these strengths do not result in a successful or believable motion picture. With its billing as a "dark comic tragedy," johns heads straight for disaster. Dark comic tragedy is to film what a multipurpose room is to architecture – neither will work without a creative genius at the helm. Scott Silver lacks the requisite skill to pull off this task, and the result is a rather clichéd and prosaic film with few peaks and lots of valleys.

johns opens January 31 at the



David Arquette and Lukas Haas on the streets of Santa Monica in a scene from johns.







The perils of privilege

Claude Chabrol's 'La Cérémonie'

by Gary Morris

eep female friendships have always been problematic in art . The anxiety they provoke is nowhere more evident than in film. In spite of the pleasures straight men seem to derive from seeing women close together— in lesbian pornography, both soft and hard— the supposed menace of women in numbers continues to flourish in film. A mathematical equation suggests itself. Two women= murderers, as in Thelma and Louise or Diabolique, or murdering lesbians, as in Bound; three or more = a witches' coven capable of triggering social collapse, as in The Crucible.

Claude Chabrol brings his unique sensibility to this subject in his latest film, La Cérémonie, adapted from Ruth Rendall's novel, A Judgment in Stone. This brilliantly unsettling thriller, one of Chabrol's best, introduces an element of class conflict into its story of two women that lifts the film far above its rivals. Sophie (Sandrine Bonnaire) and Jeanne (Isabelle Huppert in a César-winning role) are very different at first glance. Sophie is coldly efficient, rigid, almost mute; Jeanne is noisy and gauche, highly opinionated and unable to restrain her enthusiasms or her many hatreds. What unites them is their increasingly bizarre relationship with the

wealthy Leliévres, the most distinguished family in the country town in northern France, where the film takes place. Both women are subservient to the Leliévres in different ways.

Both women are subservient to the Leliévres in different ways. Sophie is hired as cook and maid by Catherine Leliévre (Jacqueline Bisset), who is desperate for Sophie to succeed where her predecessors — and there have been many for this difficult family — failed. Jeanne is a lowly postal worker who indulges her dislike of the Leliévres by reading their mail and not bothering to disguise the fact. Sophie proves to be supremely competent, astounding the family's fussy guests with her quiches and seemingly invisible housekeeping. Still, there are signs of cracks in her beautiful, hard surface, even from the beginning. When Catherine asks her — strictly as a formality — whether she likes the plain, cramped room she's to live in, Sophie says "No," but then quickly revises her statement in a half-hearted attempt to satisfy her employer's obvious need to feel she is doing Sophie a kindness.

kindness.

Chabrol portrays the Leliévres as insufferably rich types who are so preoccupied with the illusion of their own superiority that they don't realize their privileged way of life is on the verge of collapse, threatened by the rude lower classes, who no longer automatically worship the wealthy. The father, Georges (Jean-Pierre Cassel),

is especially patronizing, endlessly watching for signs of incompetence or impudence from the enslaved Sophie. He gets his wish when Sophie tries to bring Jeanne — obviously a family enemy — to her room for a visit. The normally placid Catherine exhibits the hysteria of an entire cornered class when Sophie, having whipped up a feast for Catherine's daughter, Melinda (Virginie Ledoyen), abruptly deserts the party to run off with Jeanne to do charity work for the church. Chabrol attempts with some skill (and help from a fine cast) to make the family credible, even superficially likable. But viewers will ultimately agree with the director's mocking statement, made in an interview, that "at the same time, you have this urge to eliminate them."

The film presages Jeanne's intrusion into the Leliévre's life early, when Catherine is picking up Sophie at the train station and Jeanne agressively asks for a lift.

The film presages Jeanne's intrusion into the Leliévre's life early, when Catherine is picking up Sophie at the train station and Jeanne aggressively asks for a lift. This scene also introduces the two women, who eventually bond over mushroom-picking in the woods and informal dinners in Jeanne's narrow cottage before moving on to bed, where they enjoy a more intimate relationship. Both appear to tap some power in each other that reaches a level of comic hysteria when they gather donated clothes for the local church. Disgusted by the quality of these smelly rags, the



Isabelle Huppert and Sandrine Bonnaire.

two ruthlessly upbraid the couple that donates them. The horrified priest fires them, freeing the pair from the church and any last checks it may have on their already unhinged personalities. Unburdened of these restraints, the two now turn their considerable energies toward the Leliévres in an ending that both surprises and unnerves.

unnerves.

Underlying and texturing La Cérémonie are the characters' secret histories, which Chabrol, in the style of his mentor Hitchcock, unveils at regular intervals for the viewer. Jeanne was arrested and tried for killing her young daughter, but she claimed it was an acci-

dent and was released. Was she guilty? It's unclear. Sophie apparently killed her father because, it is suggested, "he smelled of piss."
Georges was married before, but his wife committed suicide, though we don't know why. An undercurrent of tension bubbles under the narrative with these hints of violence in the past lives of these characters, indicating a desperately unstable world — even in the privileged mansion of the Lelièvres — that Jeanne and Sophie must somehow make right. \textsf{

La Cérémonie opens January 31 throughout the Bay Area.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Different light on black history



n recognition of Black History Month, A Different Light Bookstore will host several events in February of interest to the community. First, on Sunday, February 2 (5:30 p.m.), writers Reggie Williams and Al Cunningham will give a special preview of their book, Yours in the Struggle: Remembering Gay/AIDS Activists of African American Descent, which reflects on some of the ordinary and extraordinary voices in the black community now lost to AIDS. Next, on Sunday, February 3, at 7:30 p.m., the bookstore will host a reception for Alameda-based, African-American artist Victoria Anderson, whose art and photography will be displayed at the bookstore throughout the month. Then, on Wednesday, February 5, at 7:30 p.m., former Pomo Afro Homo Djola Branner (above) will read from his new collection of poems, *tyrics of the last born*. And on Saturday, February 9, at 1 p.m., don't miss the salon mecca, which will host a discussion with Men of All Colors Together. For more information about these events, call the bookstore at 431-0891. A Different Light is located at 489 Castro St. ▼

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Martyr to the cause

Derek Jacobi in 'Breaking the Code'

by Gary Morris

lan Turing was one of those gifted homosexuals all too common in queer history did pioneering work on early computers and helped make England safe for heterosexuals by cracking the German "Enigma" code during World War II. In return, this unapologetic "Nancy boy," as his shocked mother calls him by the beauty of the same of him, was harassed, robbed, arrest-ed, hospitalized, and forced to ed, hospitalized, and forced to take estrogen as a condition of being probated rather than jailed. As a result of this bizarre treatment, Turing developed breasts, a turn of events that hastened his descent into a crippling depression. His death in 1954 at age 42 is believed to be a suicide, from a strychnine-laced apple, though some think it may have been an experiment gone wrong.

Breaking the Code, the Masterpiece Theatre version of Turing's

piece Theatre version of Turing's life, gives equal time to the man's passionate intellectual curiosity passionate inhericular curiosity and his pursuit of homosexual pleasure. The film, adapted by Hugh Whitemore from his play of the same name (based on Andrew Hodges' biography), structures the story around flashbacks and flash-forwards, an apt metaphor for the kind of psychic dissonance Turing must have suffered in try-ing to be as free in his personal life as in his scientific pursuits at a time when homosexuality was il-

as in his scientific pursuits at a time when homosexuality was illegal in Great Britain.

An early scene in the film brings together Turing's dueling obsessions in the person of Christopher (Blake Ritson), a handsome, equally science-minded schoolmate who visits his friend one weekend in 1929. Christopher's wide-eyed description of seeing one of Jupiter's moon's through his telescope amounts to a verbal caress, which Turing longs to return. "I wish we could live here together," Turing says to his friend. "Just you and I ... wouldn't that be wonderful?"
The soundtrack here takes an acceptable liberty, as it begins playing the endearingly kitschy "Someday My Prince Will Come" from Snow White (actually released eight years later).

The film quickly jumps ahead to 1952, when an adult Turing, played by Derek Jacobi, picks up a decidedly less innocent version of



Derek Jacobi is Alan Turing in Breaking the Code

his "prince" — an unemployed piece of trade named Ron Miller (Julian Kerridge). Their relation-ship, clearly economic on Miller's ship, clearly economic on Miller's part, triggers Turing's downfall when the prince becomes a thief and an angry Turing turns him into the police, who, instead of apprehending the thief, arrest Turing for sodomy.

Between Turing's early school-boy romance and his downfall at the hands of the British authorities, the film shows fascinating

ties, the film shows fascinating glimpses of his work life, includ-ing his induction into Bletchley Park's coterie of code-breakers, among them Patricia Green (Amanda Root) and head cryptanalyst Knox (Richard Johnson). Green is aware of Turing's homosexuality but falls in love with him sexuality but falls in love with him anyway. The pragmatic Knox tells Turing he doesn't care if he "go[es] to bed with choir boys or cocker spaniels," but urges re-straint for the sake of the project, whose aim was to break the secret language German U-boat cap-tains used to communicate with

one another at sea

one another at sea.

Turing's dislike of protocol extends to his work. Frustrated by the lack of funding, he appeals directly to Winston Churchill, who orders that Bletchley be supplied with every resource it needs. Turing's success helped end the war, but his efforts weren't enough to save himself from Britain's antiquated sodown laws, which arguated sodown laws.

save himself from Britain's anti-quated sodomy laws, which ar-guably destroyed him.

While Breaking the Code has some of the uncomfortable insu-larity of its origins as a stage play, it is redeemed by consistently strong performances. True to Masterpiece Theater standards, the film treats Turing's actual love the film treats Turing's actual love life perhaps too discreetly, but Derek Jacobi makes the character's passions come alive in the mind despite the absence of flesh. ▼

Breaking the Code airs February 2. on PBS.









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Imperial Teen

◀ Arts cover

formances entertained others too, well, all the better. Expectations of Imperial Teen

as a live act are naturally higher now than when the band first began gigging around town almost two years ago. At its Great American Music Hall show, the Teens didn't disappoint, displaying greater assurance as musicians while still keeping things loose and playful. As they've done since their earliest concerts, the band members, in order to avoid becoming too stuck in their roles, switched instruments several times during the evening. The music rarely suffered, but this in-strument swap did border on shtick at times.

Bottum and Schwartz also took turns on lead vocals throughout the show, singing

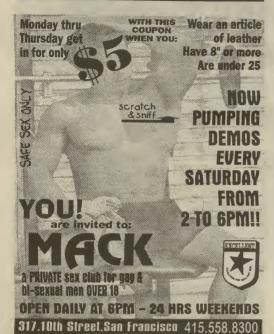
tunes from Seasick as well as several new pop songs. The new numbers, which didn't deviate numbers, which didn't deviate much from the band's wonderful-ly off-kilter pop style, went over well, but it was the songs from Seasick that proved the real crowd-pleasers. Many in the audience shouted along with fa-vorite lyrics like "The prince wants to be a queen," from "Butch," and "I love the taste of anything that I can spit at you,"

anything that I can spit at you," from "Luxury."
When I saw Bottum play with Faith No More in Phoenix a decade ago, the intensity of their show threatened to peel the flocked paper off the walls of the converted German restaurant in which they were performing. Imperial Teen doesn't play with that kind of ferocity, but they don't hold back either. At their best, the band creates queer power-pop as band creates queer power-pop as punchy as it is literate. Not bad for a bunch of thirtysomethings.

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London's Sneaker Pimps, from left to right: Liam Howe, Kelli Dayton, and Chris Corner.

Tripping up trip-hop

London's Sneaker Pimps come to SF

by Adrian Roberts

Anglophile friend of mine has described the music of Sneaker Pimps as "Portishead meets Garbage." The band's American publicist said "Portishead meets Mazzy Star." And when I finally got my hands on a British import of their debut album, *Becoming X*, my first thought was "Portishead meets the Cranes."

"I'll tell you," says lead singer Kelli Dayton in a phone interview.

"I'll tell you," says lead singer Kelli Dayton in a phone interview from her home in London, "when I joined Sneaker Pimps, I didn't even know who Portishead were!" That comes as no surprise, given Dayton's rock 'n' roll back-ground. Her two bandmates, though, musicians Chris Corner

and Liam Howe, are a different story. "They take elements of the trip-hop and drum 'n' bass gen-res," Dayton tells me, "because that's where they come from —

that's where they come from —
that's their heritage."

While the Pimps' musical influences are obvious in the fat,
slow-grind beats that lay the
groundwork for their moody material, they've managed to circumwent the standard "trip-hop" label
through an innovative use of guitar squall, live instrumentation,
and trilly female vocals, all of tar squail, five instrumentation, and trilly female vocals, all of which have made the band's sound difficult to pigeonhole. "The British music press feels like they have to put everything into

categories," explains Dayton, "as if people won't buy a record unless they know exactly what it contains. I don't bother with it, really. If they think they can label us, then that's clever, because we certainly can't!

While the members of Sneaker Pimps don't mind being lumped.

Pimps don't mind being lumped with bands like Portishead, they bristle at out-and-out compar-

bristle at out-and-out comparisons, because, says Dayton, "we've played live so much, which Portishead hardly ever does."

While performing live is still a relatively new concept for a pair of home-studio musicians like Corner and Howe, being onstage comes naturally to 22-year-old Dayton, who has been playing in rock bands since she was 16. In fact, the first time the two lads saw her sing was at a little pub in her sing was at a little pub in Birmingham. A friend of a friend knew they were looking for a female singer and recommended Dayton's band. Captivated by her voice, the two asked her to come down to London to sing on a pro-ject they were working on in a tiny bedroom studio.

"It was just something to do," admits Dayton, who was wary at first. "It sounds silly now, but

next page ▶





Vocal riches

Countertenor Brian Asawa cuts record with BMG

by Timothy Pfaff

ince the number of people who find an afternoon of English lute songs exciting is already limited, it helps when one of the singers is San Francisco countertenor Brian Asawa.

At a January 12 concert at the Noe Valley Ministry, Asawa, who starred in San Francisco Opera's production of *Die Fledermaus* last month, performed an enthralling recital of Elizabethan lute songs, defuly accompanied by Bay Area lutenist David Tayler. Subtleties abounded in music that demands nothing less. Yet without turning this delicate fare into a Renaissance cabaret act, Asawa rendered a program that was frequently electrifying. starred in San Francisco Opera's

electrifying.

That could only have come as good news to his producers at BMG Classics, with whom the singer just signed an exclusive contract. Asawa takes this program into the studio this week for what will become his first solo CD.

Connoisseurs of the lute song are used to hearing them performed by singers who sound like English choirboys. Asawa, who possesses one of the most indecently beautiful voices on the opera stage today, couldn't achieve that chaste sound on a

dare — bless him. In this recital, however (a benefit for the School of the Arts started by his aunt, noted SF sculptor Ruth Asawa), the singer gave his lustrous yet incisive instrument free play. In music that boasts a penchant for daintiness, Asawa unearthed a sensuality and fine-grained eroticism entirely fitting for songs about love's perils and disappointments, as well as its appointments, as well as its sweetness. Singing with as keen an awareness to period style as any of his countertenor colleagues, what Asawa supplied additionally — and abundantly —

ditionally — and abundantly was charm.

Exemplary diction and high sensitivity to text enriched his presentation of ten John Dowland songs, five by Thomas Campian, and a set of anonymus popular times (one of mous popular tunes (one of them attributed to Anne Boleyn). Strophic songs set to sub-tle Elizabethan poetry can out-last their welcome by the time they reach the fifth verse, but Asawa consistently lent them the requisite variety of text and tim-

Communicating with his pen-etrating eyes didn't hurt, either. Without resorting to bawdy mug-ging, Asawa inflected the poetry's frequent double entendres (many of them sexual in nature) pun gently, with a deft combination of verbal accents and darting eyes. Any singer who can declaim a line like "Peace, peevish bee" without breaking character, has earned a right to any amount of eye dance

A voice as rich and expressive as Asawa's needs little by way of embellishment. While establishing that he is the master of the well-turned trill, Asawa supplied ornaments that grew out of the melodic line and seamlessly fell back into it. Even the florid, songbird-like effects of the anonymous popular song "This merty pleasant spring" sounded impressively natural.

Keenly attuned to rhythmic A voice as rich and expressive

impressively natural.

Keenly attuned to rhythmic contours and pulses, the countertenor capitalized on the sprung rhythms of Dowland's "Can she excuse my wrongs."

Later, he let the strong off-beats of Campiag's "Come let us." of Campian's "Come let us sound with melody" carry him. What lingered most in the

memory was the fusion of voice and material. The lilting melody of the anonymous "Willow of the anonymous "Willow Song" (with its ingratiating harmonic modulations) will not soon be forgotten. Dowland's "Sorrow, stay," which Asawa brought home on a sliver of sound, provided a moment of sheer transport. It's gratifying to think that moment will be cap-tured when BMG releases Asawa's first solo recording next fall.



Brian Asawa

Sat 5-11 8-2 8-2 8-2 8-2 TUS Men Men Men Men Men and friday noon to four is a new tune Bayway Social Club 41 Grand Avenue 510444-4141 Downtown Oakland





Sneaker Pimps previous page

when I first met them, I was like, 'Oh no, there's no way I can work with all these computers, I just

with all these computers, I just can't!

"But then I thought, 'Ya know, I've got to do this. I'll just be too narrow-minded if I don't.' So I gave it a go, and I started to realize how much more you could do, and how back in the dark ages I was! I mean I love guitar bands, but they're limited in what you can bring across. That's when I realized there is this whole world of music I'd never looked into."

music I'd never looked into."

That world included, among other things, cutting-edge elec-tronica and old torch songs, which Corner and Howe have commingled to create what sounds like a soundtrack for a futuristic noir film.

Ultimately, Dayton stuck with it, going down to London every

weekend to record with the boys. Six months later, the band had a tape, which they began shopping around to various record labels. Somehow, one of the tapes found its way to Virgin Records, and within one week, Sneaker Pimps was signed.

Hot shot producers Flood and Hot shot producers Flood and Nellee Hooper were brought in to remix the songs "Wasted Early Sunday Morning" and "6 Underground," respectively. Those songs aside, Becoming X was released as it was recorded in Corner and Howe's bedroom.

Although Becoming Y has just

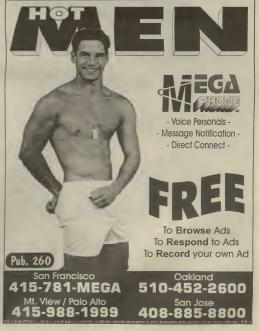
Howe's bedroom.
Although Becoming X has just come out in the U.S., Sneaker Pimps has been playing its songs for nearly two years. Do they ever get tired of them? "We never get sick of the songs, because we're always changing them," explained Dayton. "We're constantly improvising, because on stage we've got no sequencers, no DAT (digital audio tape). We trigger all the samples live. So we never just rest

with what we've got."

As our interview wound down, I had only one last question: How did the band wind up with such an unusual name? "It comes from a Beastie Boys interview," Dayton says, laughing. "They had a friend on their payroll who couldn't do anything musical, so they sent anything musical, so they sent him to New York to buy hard-to-find gym shoes. They called him their 'sneaker pimp.'" Liam and Chris asked me what I thought about the name and I said, 'Ugh! But then it just stuck, because it's hard to define. You hear Sneaker Pimps and you wonder, What is it? It could be anything! And that's good, because that's what we are. We could be anything, really." ▼

Sneaker Pimps play Wednesday, February 5 (9 p.m.), at Bimbo's, 1025 Columbus Avenue. Tickets are \$10. For more information, call 474-0365.







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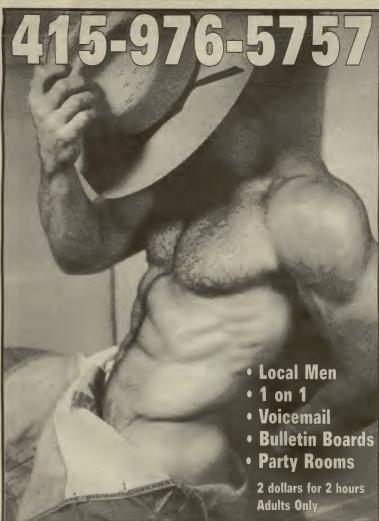
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Songbirds unite

Second West Coast Cabaret Convention

by Chad Jones

A resounding hit with Bay Area audiences last year, the Mabel Mercer Foundation's West Mabel Mercer Foundation's West Coast Cabaret Convention kicks off its second week-long goround this Saturday night with a gala opening at the Herbst Theatre. Performances continue throughout the week at venues in San Francisco, Larkspur, and Yountville. Admission to most shows is \$10 (shows at the Domaine Chandon Winery in Yountville are \$12).

This year's opening night

maine Chandon Winery in Yountville are \$12).

This year's opening night boasts bonafide stars like Ann Hampton Callaway, Philip Officer, KT Sullivan, Jeff Harnar, and the legendary Portia Nelson. Also on hand will be great San Francisco performers like Meg Mackay, Sharon McNight, Ruth Hastings, and the thrilling Paula West, who all but stole the show last year.

Throughout the week, the Herbst stage will be awash in talent: on Sunday, February 2, theater historian, biographer and critic Sheridan Morley will host A Talent to Amuse: A Celebration of the Words and Music of Noël Coward; on Tuesday, February 3, singers such as Nancy Dussault, Maureen McVerry, Karen Morrow, Clark Sterling, and the wondrous Weslia Whitfield will celebrate the birthday of cabaret great Mabel Mercer; and on Sunday, February 9, the closing night fes-tivities will honor the work of great songwriters: Jo Sullivan



Angela LaGreca



Phillip Officer

Loesser will sing Frank Loesser, KT Sullivan will sing the music of honored guest composer Bart Howard, and Irving Berlin's daughter, Mary Ellin Barrett, will celebrate her father's work with a promised "celebrity guest star."

San Francisco's finest cabaret, the Plush Room in the York Hotel, will showcase such talents as Dussault and Sullivan, Amanda (The Rose) McBroom, and the stylish Mary Cleere Haran. Another cabaret hot spot, the Larkspur Cafe, will feature some of the best of the new generation of performers, among them, Charles Cermele, Christian Nova, Abe Reybold, Alix Corey, Karen Saunders, Angela LaGreca, and Eric Comstock.

A great treat from last year's convention returns when Barbara's convention returns when Barbara's convention returns when Barbara's convention returns when Barbara's

Comstock.

A great treat from last year's convention returns when Barbara Carroll, the legendary Carlyle Hotel jazz pianist, holds court at the cozy Inn at the Opera. Carroll (and her loyal fans) will be celebrating the release of her new CD, a tribute to Jerome Kern.

As most events at last year's convention sold out early, cabaret enthusiasts should call now for tickets. For Herbst Theatre events, call 392-4400. For Plush Room

call 392-4400. For Plush Room shows, call 547-9633. For Lark-spur Cafe shows, call 924-6107, spur Care snows, can 924-0107, and for performances at the lnn at the Opera, call 863-8400. Enterprising souls who want to trek to Domaine Chandon Winery to hear Callaway, Sullivan, Harnar, or David Staller, should call (707) 944-2280. For more information about the Cabaret Convention, call 547-9633. ▼



Ranking 'Aida' on disc

by Stephanie von Buchau

ext Saturday, February 8 the San Francisco Opera will once again employ the Civic Auditorium — for what one fervently hopes is the last time this century — when it mounts a new production of Verdi's Aida. Is it coincidence or omen that the last time SFO performed Aida it wasn't in the War Memorial either? The Loma Prieta earthquake intervened in 1989, and the opening night of Aida was given as a concert in Masonic Auditorium.

I confess I haven't listened to Aida since, so the following obstacles. Civic Auditorium - for what

Aida since, so the following observations on Aida recordings are all fresh. I listened to 13 recordings of the opera and came up with five that will tell you everything you need to know, musically and dramatically, about the score. In alphabetical order by conductor, my top five Aidas are:

Karajan & the Vienna Philhar-monic (EMI Classics)

I was surprised that the Penguin Guide to Opera on Compact
Disc lists this set as number one, since the British are anti-Karajan these days. I can imagine them being incensed over a triumphal scene that could have played Nuremberg in 1935, but Karajan is right — the regime of Egyptian priests is absolutely deadly. From that brutal public utterance, the conductor focuses on the intimate hopeless drawn of ance, the conductor focuses on the intimate, hopeless dreams of Aida (Mirella Freni) and Radames (Jose Carreras), who are possibly overparted on stage, but tender and touching on disc. It contrasts perfectly with Agnes Baltas's powerfully schizophrenic Amneris, a frustrated princess who has everything but the man she loves. she loves.

Mehta & the Rome Opera (EMI Classics)

Classics)
This is as grandly extroverted and healthy as Karajan's reading is tormented and neurasthenic. Birgit Nilsson (Aida), Franco Corelli (Radames), and Grace Bumbry (Amneris) were the top of their class in 1967. Note the way Nilsson and Corelli attempt to sing Verdi's written dynamics in the tomb scene; that's a lot of work for big voices, but it pays big dividends. (It was even better live at the old Met.) at the old Met.)

Muti & the New Philharmonic

(EMI Classics)
Good for EMI; three out of than even Barry Bonds can claim.
This 1974 recording is one of the all-around finest, with Montserrat Caballe as the ultimate feminine victim, singing with exquisite rapture. Placido Domingo's best Radames recording finds him a stalwart (if none too bright) warrior, and Fiorenza Cossotto is a powerful Amneris.

Perlea & the Rome Opera

This is the way opera sounded before acoustical engineers and psychology nuts got ahold of it—dignified, proper, very public. Singers were taught to project, yet Singers were taught to project, yet their large voices remained flexible. Jonel Perlea's conducting is idiomatic, and the cast — Zinka Milanov (Aida), Jussi Bjoerling (Radames), and Fedora Barbieri (Amneris) — was "Golden Age" even in the '50s. This is not a first-place Aida, however; dull mono sound dims orchestral detail.



Leontyne Price

Solti & the Rome Opera (London)

This 1962 recording is the best of the three Rome Opera sets in terms of orchestral playing. The conducting and singing crackle with virile energy. With the glam-orous, high-powered quartet of

Leontyne Price (Aida), Rita Gorr (Amneris), Jon Vickers (Radames), and Robert Merrill (Amonasro), there's more testos-terone here than in most NFL locker rooms. Karajan's is the most romantic *Aida* on disc, Solti's the most exciting.

The rest of my baker's dozen isn't recommendable in terms of whole performances, although whose performances, atthough each recording has some individual draw. Try a newly discovered 1953 live performance from Covent Garden, with Maria Callas (after the weight loss) and Giulietta Simionato as the pungent rivals in love (Legato Classics). Twenty years later. sics). Twenty years later, Gwyneth Jones and Placido Domingo are thrilling live from the Vienna State Opera with Muti in the pit (Bella Voce). Karajan's first stereo Aida (1959) featured Giulietta Simionato's incendiary Amneris (arguably the best on disc) and Carlo Bergonzi's impeccably vocalized but less than studly Radames (traits he shares with Bjoerling).



Giulietta Simionato

Renata Tebaldi is the bland but creamy Aida (London).

Two Aidas on video work better than their CD counterparts.
Devotees of Luciano Pavarotti
can enjoy his bright-toned warrior chief while also getting a load of Ghena Dimitrova's soprano Amneris, a Theda Bara with high notes (London VHS and CD). The Met's heavy-handed production features an aging Domingo, but Dolora Zajick and Aprile Millo give good diva for the money (Sony Classical VHS and

Finally, if you like oldies but goodies, check out soprano Gian-nina Aranji-Lombardi from La Scala in 1928 (VAI Audio) and tenor Aureliano Pertile from the same year at Scala, but not, alas, the same performance (Pearl). Fi-nally, for the kind of taut, violent nally, for the kind of taut, violent conducting that Arturo Toscanini was famous for — though by 1949 it had congealed into mannerism — there is his legendary NBC Symphony concert (on RCA) with Herva Nelli, Richard Tucker, and the estimple Giuseppa Valdenge. the estimable Giuseppe Valdengo. The sound is pretty good, considering its age. ▼

Aida runs February 8-23 at the Civic Auditorium. For tickets, call 864-3330.





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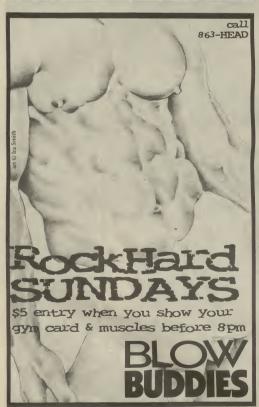




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Centaurs are sterling

by Mister Marcus

lose to 1500 men and women of the leather persuasion converged on Washington, D.C., last weekend (Jan. 24-26) to celebrate another paean to leather with the selection of Mr. Mid-Atlantic Leather 1997. The event was witnessed by a jubilant crowd of people who refused to let the frigid temperatures in the nation's capital ruin the fun that brought tribal members from as far away as Australia.

bers from as far away as Australia.
Beginning on Friday, Washington National, Dulles and BWI airton National, Dulles and BWI airports looked like far-flung leather bastions as delegates arrived and swamped the staff of the Washington Plaza Hotel and other hostelries in the neighborhood that handled the sold-out overflow. Washington bars and shops enjoyed an unexpected windfall of greenery as leather men and women opened their pocketbooks.

Co-chairs Jim Raymond and Co-chairs Jim Raymond and Ken Doberly are due high praise and sincere accolades for their successful efforts in putting together a sterling edition of a weekend competition that is now considered a must for leather afficionados. Cocktails, dinners, brunches, entertainment and the best cruising this side of paradise topped the long list of hedonistic activities.

The main event of the week-

The main event of the weekend, however, was the Mr. Mid-Atlantic Leather competition that Atlantic Leather competition that saw 11 studly hunks go for the gold. The panel of judges was one of the best I've ever worked with: IMs.L. Jill Carter, IML founder/producer Chuck Renslow, IML '95 Larry Everett, former MAL Joe Morris, MAL Founder Al Santora and outgoing MAL Mauro Montova.

outgoing MAL Mauro
Montoya.

It was pure bedlam
at Tracks for the
event, and the Olympic scoring
system pronounced Mike Siemer
of Kansas City, Kan., Mr. Mid-Atlantic Leather '97. The first runner-up was Chad Ellis of
Sykesville, M.D., and the second
runner-up was a very feisty Carl
Baldwin of Arlington, Va. The
other contestants were: Mike
Marero of San Francisco; Will
Colon of Cheltenham, M.D.; Don
Christian of Washington, D.C.; Bazaar Colon of Cheltenham, M.D.; Don Christian of Washington, D.C.; Mr. Upstate New York Mason Timmons of Syracuse, NY; Bill Dana of Virginia Beach; Danny Clougherty of Philadelphia; Glen "Boy" Fidi of New Britain, Conn.; and Michael Mims of McKee's Rocks Pan

As the master of ceremonies As the master of ceremonies, Frank Nowicki once again proved to be the dean of emcees. In the jock portion of the judging, he persuaded the contestants to write a brief description of their fantasies, which was read as they paraded their pulchritude before the appreciative audience. Frank sugapprectative audience. Frank sug-gested that major porn producers could easily use some of the plot lines in their future productions! The hard-working Centaurs proved that the essential policies

of clubdom and brotherhood really do work. These guys toiled endlessly to ensure that everyone had a good time. It's safe to say that no one left Washington unsatisfied.

The staff at the newly revived Washington Plaza Hotel (on Thomas Circle) was inundated by the leather hordes. My fave desk



Mr. Mid-Atlantic Leather '97 contest winners (I to r): Chad Ellis, first runner-up; Mike Siemer, the winner; and Carl Baldwin, second, runner-up.

clerk, Tracy, kept his cool all the way to the end, dealing with travel-weary people hell-bent on having a good time.

The leather market in the host hotel was overflowing with returning vendors who enjoyed brisk ales. Leather and all the trappings, ranging from toys and videos to latex and whips, were availand whips, were avail-able to all who pe-rused the huge sales

area. Needless to say, the leather

bars – D.C. Eagle, Green Lantern (a.k.a. The Green Latrine), The Circle, Mr. P's and the Fireplace – all enjoyed wall-to-wall leather people. You would have loved it. The final event of the weekend, The Dark Dance, produced by Box Productions, enjoyed a big crowd of those who didn't have to flee home. The natriers joined in

from of those who didn't have to flee home. The partiers joined in stomping, sweating, sashaying (with and without sashes) and se-duction, with music provided by former Mr. NY Leather Orlando

Diaz.
The Centaur MC Leather



Kansas City beef on the hoof: Mr. Mid-Atlantic Leather '97 Mike Siemer

EVENTURES IN LEATHER

Thursday, Jan. 30

Mr. February 1998 on the SoMa Bare Chest Calendar will be chosen at 2200 tonight at the Eagle. Judges Tom Powers, "Taurus" Webster and Randy Wright will put them through their paces. Win \$100, fame and fortune. All for the AIDS Emer-

Weekend, Jan. 30-Feb. 2

Partition of Leather Awards and Mr./Ms. Olympus Leather Contest in New Orleans. Leather people around the world will be honored only a few days before the Mardi Gras festivities. Call (213) 656-5073 for tickets and Information.

Friday, Jan. 31

Deadline for International Bear Rendezvous coming up next month. Call 541-5000 for prices, times and locations of all events.

Saturday, Feb. 1

California Eagles MC celebrates its 13th anniver-sary, 1900-2200, on the SF-Eagle patio. Entry with invitation in hand or wearing your club over-lay. Congratulations!

Dyke Daddy Koko is hosting a women's pre-Ms.
Golden Gate Leather contest play party at Castlebar at 2000. Applications for the contest are now

bar at 2000. Applications for the contest are not available at the Eagle.

Mr. Connecticut Leader '97 will be chosen in Westport tonight, but details had not been forthcoming by my deadline.

Thursday, Feb. 6

Big Basket Contest at The Edge. No details at my deadline, but you know Danny Williams will emcee, with a beer bust and a contest at 2200.

Free and anonymous HIV testing upstairs at 933 Harrison, 2030-2230, courtesy of AIDS Health

Project and Blow Buddies. Make use of this community service!
Golden Gate Guards MC beer/soda bust for \$6

at the SF-Eagle, 2000-2300. As usual, it should be a riot with this crowd!

Saturday, Feb. 8
Defenders MC third anniversary at the Loading
Dock (1525 Mission), 1900-2100. Entry with invitation in hand or wearing your club overlay.
Leather Elegance Valentine Ball at the Driftwood Lounge in Hayward by Radhika and Yvonne
of the Alameda County Leather Corps. Shan Carr
will entertain; tickets are \$15 advance/\$20 door.
Seattle Mr. Leather contest at Neighbors Nightclub at 2000, \$8, with entertainment by Las Vegas
showgirl Toni James.

Monday, Feb. 10

Lou (The Rope Woman) Duff's Hands on Rope Workshop hosts "Basic Bondage," 1900-2200. Call 550-0122 for time, place and fee(s).

Thursday, Feb. 13

Searching for Mr. March 1998 on the Bare Chest Calendar at the SF-Eagle tonight at 2200. Win \$100. Bare your areolas. Judges not yet confirmed. Leather and Inter-Club Fund night at Coming Home Hospice Bingo for Valentine's Day (on Fri-

day). Special leather guest callers, prizes, fun. Don't miss it!

Sunday, Feb. 16
Inter-Club Fund's 31st annual Motorcycle Awards & Show at the Russian Center (Sutter and Divisadero). Doors and bar open at 1800; buffet dinner by Tommy Thomas at 1830; and the awards begin at 2000. Tickets are \$18 advance/\$22 door. Write for tickets: ICF, P.O. Box 421862, SF, CA 94142-1862. Do it today! Followed immediately after the awards show by the GDIs' Winners Circle celebration at the Eagle.

weekend is so huge; it is impossible for anyone to even *try* to grade it on a scale of 1 to 10. Veterans and newcomers alike vociferously agree that it's the best bargain in leatherdom – bar none!

The weather may have been chilly, but the warmth, spirit and intense fun, camaraderie and brotherhood more than made up for it. No blizzard this year! If you missed it, shame on you! Every-

missed it, shame on you! Everyone had a ball – or two.

My special thanks to Billy Collison and Chris Brush for guiding me through my first attempt to shed the shameful title of "computer illiterate" I've had these many years. Now I'm only a novice, but we've all been there at one time or another. Thanks one time or another. Thanks, Centaurs! You give good leather.

Here comes da judge

International Mr. Leather 1997 has been on the drawing board since last November, with much planning going on at IML Inc. headquarters. Letters were sent out in early January inviting leather veterans to judge this year's event on Memorial Day Weekend in Chicago, and they all accepted. accepted.

accepted.

So hear ye! Hear ye! You're the first (my exclusive scoop!) to know that this year's judging line-up is as follows: Thom Dombkowski of Chicago (head judge); longtime leather contest entrepreneur Roland Bynum of Portland, Oregon; Detroit leather activist and a big kahuna in the Icons MC, Darryl Bucks; Amsterdam's Jacques Hoppe, formerly on the European Drummer staff; a co-producer of IML in Chicago in co-producer of IML in Chicago in the early years, Jim Dohr; and celebrating the 10th year of *The Leather Journal*, editor/publisher Dave Rhodes. Of course, outgoing IML Joe Gallagher will help pick his successor, and last but certainly not least, San Francisco's representative on the panel will be our own Jerry Roberts! I'll have fun joining this august group as judge emeritus.

Ticket and hotel information



IMs.L Jill Carter, IML founder Chuck Renslow and emcee Frank Nowicki thank the crowd for donating over \$1000 to the Leather Archives and Museum in Chicago during a break in the MAL contest.

for IML '97 will be in the mail soon. Don't wait; don't get shut out of the host hotel. Order your weekend package tickets early! Don't miss the leather community's big celebration in the Windy City!

I was out of town most of the weekend, so I missed all the fun events going on here. However, in spite of the nasty weather, a good time was reportedly had by all.
Mike Brown of Tampa, Fla., blew
into town on Sunday, Jan. 19, and
immediately immersed himself in
all the delights our city has to
offer. He says his first visit to
Leather Buddies was probably his
most exciting foray into leather
sex ever! Also, good reports on the
first male play party at Backdrop
in Mountain View!



one community many faces



Noon til 812m









JT ABOUT

alendare by Roberto Friedman



Time out

editations in time is the title of Curator of Media Arts Robert editations in time is the fine of Curator of Media Arts Robert R. Riley's brilliant new exhibition of three Selections from the Permanent Collection of Media Arts at SFMOMA. Three California artists, Bill Viola, Howard Fried, and Jim Campbell, confront their audience's habits of perception in media installations which richly reward time spent with them. spent with them.

"The content of these works is the mystery, the phenomenon of time, which exists outside the confines of the human mind," said Riley at the media opening. In Campbell's Digital Watch (1991), a videocamera records an analog watch, then transmits the image to a large video monitor. At the same time, a second camera is feeding video images of the viewer as he enters the gallery, so that timepiece and mortal form are united in video space. Campbell said, "The feedback system is like a mirror, but when you see yourself that delayed and that frozen, it's a loss of control over your body!"

loss of control over your body!"
Fried's 1970 (1970) is an early touchstone in media arts, one of the

Fried's 1970 (1970) is an early touchstone in media arts, one of the first exploratory artworks that began to express the possibilities of time and space with a media apparatus. An 8 mm film loop, it seems like an artifact from a lost civilization in these fastforward days of digital imaging, a comment on our sense of art time.

Video virtuoso Bill Viola's He Weeps For You (1977) is a marvel in live video. A water droplet is filmed and projected on a giant screen as it falls from a copper pipe, reflecting museumgoers on its surface as it distends... until it falls, striking an amplified drum. The drop and the video image together "crash with a resonant boom." Viola said he was inspired by rain-spotted eyeglasses, and how the visual world could be contained in a drop of water. In real time, the experience of his installation is truly magical.

Meditations in time remains on view through April 22 at SFMOMA, 151 3rd St. Call 357-4000 for information.



American Buffalo

American Buttato
Pour Boys Productions and
Genesius Theatre Co. present
David Mamet's gritty drama.
Thurs.-Mon. thru 2/2. \$1517. 8pm. 450 Geary Studio
Theatre, 450 Geary. 673-1172

And the World Goes 'Round

Musical revue celebrating songwriting of John Kander

and Frank Ebb. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 2pm thru 2/2. \$9. Studio Theatre, SFSU, 1600 Holloway. 338-2467.

Angels in America

Angels in America First Bay Area college pro-duction of Tony Kushner's drama. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 2pm thru 2/9. \$10. DVC Performing Arts Center, 321 Golf Club Rd., Pleasant Hill. (510) 687-4445.

Club nZinga

Global dance party, DJ Jose Ruiz. \$5. 9pm-2am. El Rio, 3158 Mission. 282-3325.

Dad Fought Hitler, the Bottle & Me

Mick Berry's solo performance. Thurs.-Sat. thru 2/1. \$10. 8pm. Venue 9, 252 9th St. 626-2169.

En Drag

Female impersonators revue, hosted by Chablis. \$3, 2 drink min'm. 10&11:30pm. Kimo's, 1351 Polk. 885-4535.

Entertaining Mr. Sloane

Joe Orton's drama: brother and sister's rivalry for a young man's affections. Fri. &

Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 7pm thru 2/23. \$14-16. Phoenix Theatre, 301 8th St. 621-4423.

Johnny-Boy

Johnny-Boy Struggling blues musician passes as a man: a love story with music. Thurs.-Sat. thru 2/1. \$10. 8:30pm. Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St. 861-5079.

Musty Chiffon

Busty lounge singer live: psychedelic camp repertoire. Wed.-Sun. at 8pm thru 2/2. \$12. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Sicks Appeal

Dragapella Beauty Shop Quartet perform vamp a cap-pella. Thurs. & Fri. at 8pm, Sat. at 8&10pm, extended thru 2/8, 516-20. New Con-servatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness. 861-8972.

Slave

Téatro Bernicé and the Sno-pea Chamber Ensemble prepea Chamber Ensemble pre-sent expressionist opera based on Milos Forman's memoirs. Fri. & Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 2pm thru 2/9. \$8-10. Inter-section for the Arts, 446 Va-lencia. 626-3311.

Travels with My Aunt ACT's premiere of Giles Havergal's adaptation stars Ken Ruta, Geoff Hoyle, Charles Dean. Thru 2/2, call for times. \$19-47.50. Tonight at 8pm. Geary Theater, 415 Geary. 749-2228.

2017 - Cure/No Cure Midnight Voices in a hip-hop musical about AIDS in the African-American community Fri. & Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 2pm thru 2/2. \$5-12.50. Buriel Clay Mem'l Theatre, 762 Fulton. 436-0447.

20/20 Blake

George Coates Performance Works presents musical based on William Blake's The Marriage of Heaven and Hell. \$14-34. Fri. & Sat. thru 2/28. 8pm. Performance Works, 110 McAllister. 392-4400.



Amateur Strip Party IV

Women only, smoke-free, benefits Luna Sea. Sign up to strip, get in free. \$7-12. 8pm. Luna Sea Women's Perf. Proj., 2940 16th St. #216C. 863-2989 x2.

Bargain Book Sale Friends of the SF Public Li-brary raise funds for the library. 10am-6pm. Fort Mason, Bldg. A. 557-4257.

Faith

Musical theatre piece by Philip Horvitz, performed by the Cordian Players. Sat. & Sun. at 8pm. \$5. Jon Sims Center, 1519 Mission. 554-0402.

Gay Comedy Night Sabrina Matthews, Scott Ca-purro, Marilyn Pittman. \$10. 10pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

The Inaugural Ball Artists Margaret Crane and Jon Winet discuss their installation (thru 3/16). \$5. 1:30pm. Ansel Adams Center for Photography, 250 4th St. 495-7000.

Ivanov!

Very loose adaptation of Anton Chekhov's "play about life before Prozac." Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 4pm thru 2/9. \$6-15. Grasshopper Palace, 333 Valencia, 4th fl. 267-6905.

Kenny Fries

Gay Jewish poet reads from Body, Remember, on his dis-ability. Co-sponsored by Con-gregation Sha'ar Zahav, free. 7:30pm. A Different Light,

489 Castro, 431-0891.

Open Mike Drag Show Put on a wig, bring a tape. \$3. Doors 10pm, show 11pm. Kimo's, 1351 Polk. 885-4535.

The Stand-In

Keith Curran's satire on homophobia in movie biz, directed by Danny Scheie. Wed.-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 3&7pm thru 2/8. \$12-18. Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St. 861-5079.



Antiques and Collectibles

300 dealers selling all types of collectibles, indoor flea market. \$2. 9:30am-5pm. Pier 29, Sansome at Embarcadero. 956-5316.

Baby Judy's

Dance club reopens, DJs Deena Davenport, Alvin A Go Go. \$3. 10pm-2am. Casano-va, 527 Valencia.

GAWK

Gay Artists and Writers Kol-lective seeks video editors, guitar players, music junkies and comedians. Meets Sun. at 3pm. Info: 731-2424.

6:3 33:

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Places in the Heart

Places in the Heart
Two selections from Pieces of
the Quilt, by Tony Kushner
and Lanford Wilson; Johnny
D's Requiem for the Singing
Nun with Sabrina Matthews.
\$10. 4pm. Josie's Cabaret,
3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Yours in the Struggle: Remembering Gay/AIDS Ac-tivists of African American Descent authors Reggle Williams, AI Cunningham read, free, 5:30pm. A Differ-ent Light, 489 Castro. 431-0891.



Barbie Takes a Vacation

Biker Barbie on the road, Malibu Barbie poolside, Trop-ical Barbie on holiday, more vignettes. Thru 3/15. South Terminal, SF International Airport. 876-7883.

Fantasy

Fantasy Live musical performance, with Zmrzlina, Charming Hostess Trio, Kathleen Her-mesdorf and Keith Hennessy. \$5-10. 9pm. Cafe Du Nord, 2170 Market.

Forget-Me-Not

Assemblages by Jenna Evans combining photographs, found objects, and previously living creatures. Reception tonight, 7pm; thru Feb. Mad Magda's Russian Tea Room, 579 Hayes. 864-7654.

Gay Comedy Open Mike

Aspiring queer comics sign up by phone, MC Sabrina Matthews. \$5. 8pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

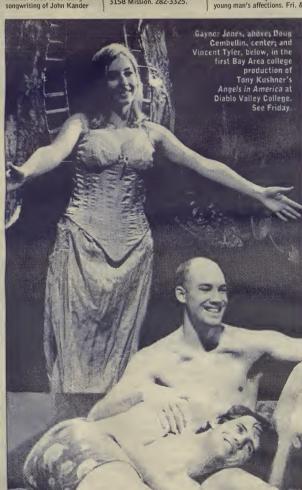
Preserving a Jewel:

"Costumes from the San Francisco Ballet" exhibit, free. Mon.-Fri.. thru 3/28. Transamerica Pyramid lobby, 600 Montgomery. 983-4088.

Same Sex Swing West Coast Swing dance classes for gay men & women \$54/month, \$16/class. Beginners, 7pm; intermediate, 8:30pm. Metronome Block Party, 300 DeHaro. 252-9000.

Town Meeting

Project Inform Update report from Conference on Retro-viruses and Opportunistic In-fections. Free, donations.



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s of

The eight-member percussion group of Stomp, opening Tuesday night at the Golden Gate Theater. See listing.

6:30pm. UCSF Conf. Ctr., 3333 California. 558-8669.

ues

Astronomy, Optics and Outer Space:

Photography Beyond the Limits exhibit, Tues.-Sun thru 3/16. \$5. Ansel Adams Center for Photography, 250 4th St. 495-7000.

Dead Nature

Group show includes artists Jeffrey Dugan, Alejandro Mazon, Ken Kirsch, more. Thru 2/10. Bucheon Gallery, 355 Hayes. 863-2891.

Fiberotica Exhibition of 2- and 3-dimensional erotica expressed in fiber. Thru 3/15. Artfibers Gallery, 124 Sutter. 956-6319.

It's Only Rock & Roll "Rock & Roll Currents In Contemporary Art" exhibi-tion, Tues.-Sun. thru 2/16. Bedford Gallery, Dean Lesher Reg'l Center for the Arts, 1601 Civic Dr., Walnut Creek. (510) 295-1417.

Jewelle Gomez

Author of The Gilda Stories reads, with Sauda Burch. \$5-7.8pm. Intersection for the Arts, 446 Valencia. 626-2787.

Open Secrets

"Seventy Pictures on Paper, 1815 to the Present" exhibit includes photos by Diane Arbus, Walker Evans; art by Henri Matisse, Andy Warhol, more. Thru 3/1. Fraenkel Gallery, 49 Geary. 981-2661.

The Peale Family:

"Creation of an American Legacy, 1770-1870" exhibi-tion. Wed.-Sun. thru 4/6. \$6. de Young Museum, Golden Gate Park. 863-3330.

Gay and lesbian programming. Tues. at 7pm. Cable Channel 47. 956-1284.

Reconstructing

"New Roads in Chicano Art" exhibit. Tues.-Sat. thru 2/22. Galeria de la Raza, 2857 24th St. 826-8009.

Stomp

Unconventional percussion sensation opens. Tues.-Sun. thru 2/23, call for times. \$15-42.50. Tonight at 8pm. Golden Gate Theatre, Taylor at Market. 776-1999.

ed

Box Lunch

Lee Delaria's new comedy at be-bop jazz cabaret show opens. Wed.-Sun. at 8pm, Fri. & Sat. also 10pm, thru 2/23. \$12. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933

The Cryptogram

Mest Coast premiere of David Mamet's drama: disintegra-tion of a marriage thru boy's eyes. Wed.-Sat. at 8:30pm, call for Sun. times, thru 2/9. \$17-21. Magic Theatre, Bldg. D, Fort Mason. 441-8822.

Djola Branner

Co-founder of Pomo Afro Homos reads from poem col-lection, lyrics of the last born, free. 7:30pm. A Different

Light, 489 Castro. 431-0891.

Game Night

Card and board games. Wed. at 7:30pm. Muddy's Coffee-house, 1304 Valencia. 679-3680.

Kevin Jennings

Kevin Jennings
Executive Director of GLSTN,
the Gay, Lesbian and Straight
Teachers Network, speaks on
"Making Schools Safe for
Gay Youth," a PFLAG Talk,
free. 7pm. Koret Auditorium,
New Main Library, Civic Center, 557-456. ter. 557-4566.

Patriotism

Emerging and experimental artists depicting America: Dyke Action Machine, Jordy Jones, Dread Scott, more. Wed.-Sat. thru 2/15. The LAB, 2948 16th St. 864-8855.

Real World

Exhibition of nine artists who explore implications of scale. Thru 3/1. New Langton Arts, 1246 Folsom. 626-5416.

Size of Earth:

Size of Earth:
"Illuminated Photoworks by
Doug and Mike Starn" exhibit, also "The Inaugural Ball:
An Open Space Installation by
Margaret Crane and Jon
Winet," thru 3/16. \$5. Ansel
Adams Center for Photography, 250 4th St. 495-7000.

Trees of Life:

"Symbols of Fertility and Re-generation" exhibit. Wed.-Sun. thru 2/14. \$3. Mexican Museum, Bldg. D, Fort Mason Ctr. 441-0404.

Visual Aid Artists

Exhibition of six "Artists for AIDS Relief," thru 3/28. Saint Francis Hospital, 900 Hyde. 353-6650.

Midnight Voices

perform 2017 Cure No Cure, a

p-hop musical about AIDS in the black

community, at the Buriel Clay

See Friday

Approach

Installation by Glen Seator: reproduction of front of bldg. Tues.-Sat. thru 3/22. Capp St. Project, 525 2nd St. 495-7101.

Bingo

Coming Home Hospice bingo benefits AIDS groups. 6:30pm. 100 Diamond. 552-2127.

Bruce's World

Bruce's World
"A Retrospective in Memory
of Bruce Walker," found photographs. With "Joachim
Schmid, Taking Snapshots:
Amateur Photography in Germany from 1900." Reception
tonight, 5:30pm. Tues.-Sat.
thru 3/15. SF Camerawork,
115 Natoma. 764-1001.

Codified Desire

Traveling exhibit curated by Rik Ritchey. Tues.-Sat. thru 3/1. Catharine Clark Gallery, 49 Geary. 399-1439.

Figures and Interiors American realism exhibition. Mon.-Sat. thru 2/15. John Pence Gallery, 750 Post. 441-1138.

Picasso at the

Lapin Agile
Steve Martin's comedy featuring the NY cast. Tues.Sun, extended thru 3/30.
Tonight at 8pm, call for times. \$25-38. Theatre on the Square, 450 Post. 433-9500.

Trafficking in **Broken Hearts**

Erotic drama about a hustler, a runaway, and a lawyer. Wed.-Sat. at 8pm thru 3/15. \$16-20. New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness. 861-8972.

WANNA SUBMIT?

Send your calendar event listings to:

Roberto Friedman Out & About Bay Area Reporter 395 Ninth Street San Francisco, CA 94103

Deadline is the Friday before issue date.

This Week's Dinner Specials



Grilled Australian Lamb Chops with mint jelly, apple-raisin dressing, fresh vegetable & baked potato......13.95

Grilled 12-oz NY Pepper Steak with cracked black pepper & brandy-cream, onion rings and french fries......11.95

Fresh Atlantic Salmon poached in white wine with lemon-tarragon served with chef's rice or mashed potatoes..10.95

Chicken Fried Steak or All-American Meatloaf with mashed potatoes......7.95 Barbeque Turkey Wings (appetizer)..3.95

Patio Cafe
531 Castro Street, between 18th/19th
Breakfast/Lunch served from 8:00 AM
Dinner from 5:00 PM nightly

Let's Dance iMusic! sells the freshest dance and aerobics tapes, mixed by the world's best DJs. No one else has them. Send for a catalog today.

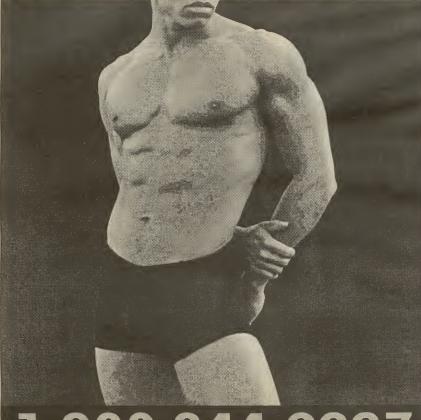








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PARTING GLANCES

1/3/97 Mandy Patinkin Concert Front row. You in green shirt to my left. Felt the heat. Want to know you! At con-cert how or if to approach? Coffee, con-cert, dinner? Second chance, serious! 22 4501.

Civic Center Muni Sun Dec 29
On escalator, 2 PM. Me: black stocking cap, red sleeveless vest, arms hanging or you: shaved head, friendly, nice! I should've spent a few minutes to get acquainted. Yo-let's talk. 4502.

Bruce Bruce Bruce
United Airlines 12/21/96 flight 964 from
SF to Washington/Dulles seat 25D. I was
the shy guy in 25C who couldn't keep his
eyes off you. How about a drink?

Vernon, W/LA Friend Garrett Dec 30 I met you guys at Hole in The Wall, we then went to My Place. I screwed up with Garrett, would like his LA address to contact him. 22 4504.

Red Ski Jckt Muni Church/Powell Black hair, blue eyes. You: olive cap/jack-et. We exchanged glances then long looks. Believe we're meant to meet. Would like to meet your friends? Definite electricity between us.

44.505.

Mississippi vs. Tennessee
We met New Year's Eve. John from Miss
to John from TN want to connect call with
number. Let's make that perfect date!

12/31 Fillmore & Sacramento
We flirted while waiting for #1 bus,
1PM. You and friend eventually walked
Van Ness, then Market; I followed. You
yellow jacket, blue pants, glasses. Me:
blue bag, Walkman, shy.

4578.

Christmas Eve At Tower Records In Marin. You: cute, blond, in red car, of-fered me a ride. I shied out—another chance? Call. 4579.

Cathedral City Boys Club PS.
You: Palo Alto, cute, furry with friend, studying, Me: San Mateo, enjoyed our brief encounter on "the walk" Jan. 2nd.
Would like to see you again. 2 4601.

Doug At Universe 1/4
After some hot body dancing you found near the entrance. We talked, but didn't exchange numbers. Call for more good times. Paul & Steve.

■ 4602.

Hi Paul, It's Lee You were the sitter, I was in charge, Call me, Iet's talk, Iet's get together, you are really cute & cuddly. 4603.

Kabuki Sat Jan. 4, 9:30 AM
Enjoyed our conversation - day beds. You had an incredible body with a black panther tattoo on your bicep. The steam was-n't hot but I was. Massaged my by butt for you. 12 4604.

End-Up Sun 1/12 Latin Guy
You: a cute Latin guy, saw you on the dance floor with your friend who has blond hair. We made a lot of eye contact before you left (by the bar) you said goodbye & so did i. Would like to meet you. Call.

4605.

Dining At The Metro
Fri. 1/10, 9:30 PM. You (tail, dark & handsome) were leaving with friend. I, GAM, seem to catch your eye. Please call.

Mountain Biker GG Park Fri 1/10 At Sunset. You: Leather backpack, ma-roon shorts. Me: Longhair, goatee, jeans. Too many peopie. Try again? Come on, check out my hot ass. 4701.

Guam Vs. Alabama
We met on the subway. You had a hurt ankle. We went for a drink at the Deto: We are both into photography. You changed my life forever!

4702.

Streetlight Records 24th Street Sunday 1/12, 1:15pm. You: Tall, dark, gorgeous. We sald hello. Sorry I was so shy. Another chance? Please call. 24704.

SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

Fuzzy Redhead Bear Prowling SF Affectionate 58 yo, 61°, 200#, HIV-, versatile, cut, thick. Searching for sensual hot 40+. Animal play first; mutual Inter-ests later. Grrrr. 22 4507.

Jerk Off Buddy Wanted I'm a strong Ilbido, masterbater, who likes watching gay & hetro-sex flicks. So if you want to jack off with me call. Sincere only! 4519. Looking For Sexy Black Man Your message got erased! What I got of the message was you are 33, 6'2", 195. Try again. James. \$\textit{2}\$ 4510.

Attention Shoppers
Looking to find your partner in 1997?
Start by making this call. I'm 38, a professional, loving, exciting, handsome & yeah, sexually callente Latino hunk. I'm looking for someone like you!
\$\mathbb{Q}\$ 4509.

I Am HIV-, 60, lean, masculine, adventurous, stable, oral. Enjoy city, movies, cycling, exploring back roads, humor, dining, sin cerity, friendship. LTR available?

4511.

HIV+ Monog Spiritual Hon Rmnt. That's what I am & looking for. 38, 5'11', thin musc. build. Smoker, ND/No drink-ing, no games, starting to take care of body & mind. Friends, poss relat. Where are you???

4512.

Romantic Bottom?

Average looking, Interesting, 518*, 135*, blondish, 40, 8*, top seeking average look ing, easy going, under 35, weight prop to height, any race for bareback sex, friendship, possible relationship.

4513.

New S/Mer to SF
Very attractive S/Mer, adult video store worker, masseur-sex worker bear, intellif drug free, hard oore bottom, top fucker, BD, FF, WS, seeks master, lover, friend. Mer S-11, 175#, 23. You: hairy, 511*+, butch.

24514.

Good Guys Finish First Romance, spontanetty, & holding hands. Me: GWM, 5***, 150#, AF/AK, & HIV + athletic, liberal, fun, traveler, & some-times a brat. Oh yeah, I'm 36 & very healthy. № 4515.

Seeking Man Of Color For LTR I'm goodlooking, sexy, spiritual, fun, smart, broad-mined, fit, honest, affectionate, caring, nature-loving, progressive, professional HIV + GWM. You have similar attributes. Call!

4516.

Sexual Healing
GBM top, prof, 40's, ISO GWM bottom,
50 yrs or above who's physically & emotionally available to pursue a LTR. I'm a
Itte smoker & drinker. You must be medi
um to stocky bullt.
4517.

Seeking Asian Top Mostly GWM seeks healthy dependable Asian stud who spanks & Is condom crazy. A caring person while perpetually & eten Iy horny. Humorous & witty too. 24 4518.

Black Beauty?
Cocksucking chubby WM, 37, seeks athletic, hung, 30ish, black man. Cuddling, sucking, talking, books, movies. SF only.
No wimpy kissers need apply. @ 4521.

East Bay Concord In Closet
GWM, br/bi, 140#, 7", discreet top want
ed. Have van. Massage? share fantasles.
Anytime, any race, age welcome HIV OK
Safe sex only. Reg service possible.

You May Be The Lucky Man Submissive 5'8", 148, hairy, 42, seeks tall, dom, man who has a sexual appetite like mine. He will need to f.ck his partner at least once a day.

4524.

Adoption And Bondage
Dad, 50, shaved head, 185#, 6', very in shape, seeks son for cuddling and BD.
Will develop right son. 22 4525.

N. Bay Artist Seeks Partner
I'm tall, cute, independent, sweet, tough,
confident, unaffected, romantle, humanltarian, & a very horny bottom. UB: similar top, hairy, butch, horny, a Bay Area
traweler. Ready for a great romance. Lets
explore together!

4526.

FF Top Wants Relationship
Have large talented hands plus toys &
sling. Want hot experienced bottom 35-55
who can handle prolonged sensuous workouts with your ass & mouth. Must like
football & live entertainment. \$\time 4527\$.

SWM, 26, New To SF Seeking Friendship, possibly more. Enjoy outdoors, bircyling 6 dining out. Values horesty & sincerely. If your 18-28 & have similar interests please respond.

4528.

New Year Fresh Start For GAM 37yo, Filipino/Chinese seeking quality gay men for sincere friendship & possibly hon-est & caring LTR. Serious responses only. No games.

2 4529.

Seeking Kindred
Average looking, slim, fit, 36, Italian
American wants tall, stocky man, 30-45,
for relationship. Enjoy occasional partying, gym, movies, traveling to hot weather
locations. Let's meet. #2 4531.

HIV+ Latin Top Wanted
time was a Latino. I'm ruined! HIV+ Concord area bottom, 34, 6, 185 #, blond,
blue, handsome stable, employed home
owner needs Latino Let's snuggle by the
fire while winter rages. Smoker preferred.

4532.

River Phoenix Look-A-Like Seeks genuine gentleman to sight the stars, do yoga, meditation, revolution, change call this Adet call home. 4534.

Coyal Bear Cub Sks Big Bear GWM, 35, short brown hair, baiding, goatee, semi hairy, HIV-, 510°, 175#, pretty eyes, glasses, nice smile. Sexual, romantic, fun loving & responsible looking for big hairy bear daddy for LTR.

2 4580.

Attractive Latino 57°, 145*, morero claro, mustache, goatee. HIV-, professional seeking guy, white or Latin, 25-35, for friendship or maybe more.

4581.

I'm Old Fashion...
But I don't mind It. Funny, creative, 40's, healthy, trim, quiet introvert seeks similar NS, eccentric but stable types for fun & games. Sense of humor a must. 24 4585.

Needed 50+ Beefy Buttfucker Dominant, HIV-, sane, masculine, no pret ty face. Demand my love, trim body, kiss-es, tight hungry butt. 56* 140#, 40's, hung. Drink, etc. 0K. 12 4586.

ISO Daddy/Coach/Business Exec GWM, 25, 6/2*, 175#, brn/hzl seks GWM, 35-45ish. Must be masculine, al-letic, professional, educated & capable of commitment/monogamy, NS/ND. Pluses: S&P hair, 6 ylbu, hairy chest. Interests include biking, rollerblading, & Glide on Sunday AM. Not Into casual sex. 122 4606.

HIV+ And Under 34
Prefer Latinos or Caucasians for friendship, maybe LTR. I'm Latin, 25, 57",
160#, versatile, attractive. Please be humorous, outgoing & NS.

4608.

Handsome Muscular Italian
38, 62°, 185#, into fitness, travel, romance & quiet times, seeks another HIV-, extremely well hung man for monogamous relationship.

4609.

Woof! Great Dane Seeks Gorilla GWM, 155#, 58", blnd/blu, must, smooth, HIV+, healthy gdikg seeks ex-tremely hairy man to share warm mean-ingful times. Smoke, drink OK. H_I/Wt prop. Very sincere, smile.

4610.

Ass Master Needed With Sensitive, experienced hands to expand & explore the tight butt hole on this rock solid bodybuilder. 22 4611.

Russian River GWM 41, 59°, 185#, blond/blue seeks mascu-line GWM, 25-50, for friendship, possib LTR. Clean & sober only. Christian is a plus. @ 4612.

Friendship To Relationship
Attractive Aslan, 29, 5'6', 140#, medium
features, clean shaven, softly smooth,
mixed-core, oriental looks, HIV-. Seeking
happy, friendly, healthy, muscular, men of
any colors, over 25, for friendhslp, posslble LTR. 12 4616.

Gourmet Cocksucking Sucking dick Is one thing; sucking you OFF quite another! Big loads beat big dicks! My cocksucking maximizes you load(s) irrespective of equipment. Feels better too! Regular service? 😭 4617.

GWM 41 Fit Goodlooking, HIV-, like travel, reading work outs, top & bottom. Seeks GWM, 25-50, fit, ND, it S&M OK, employed GWM for fun & poss. LTR. 42 4619.

Beauty
Is In the eye of the beholder. Skinny, m
dle aged man seeks hot muscle guy to
worship. Are you out there? 4613.

SJ Leather Bear/Uniform Buddy GWM, 38, 63°, 220 lb..., red beard, halr average equipment, versatile, profession-al, sophisticated, NS/ND seeks same for pawin', cuddlin' & hibernatin'; explore other scenes together. No one nighters.

Ski, Bike, Windsurf Buddy 4 LTR. Sports-active, aggressive (non-fanatic), stable sweetheart looking to share adventures in and out the woods. Muscular, trim, attractive, 61, 70%, blond/blue, hung, versatile, HIV-y voung 44. Very active with many Interests. 12 4705.

Sex, Passion, Romance and ? Attractive, athletic GWM, 46, nice body, HIV+, work out daily and bicycle on weekends. Want to meet athletic healthy HIV+ men under 40 for passionate ro-mantic sex, possible LTR.

4706.

Setting-Scene:
Promenading in "cruise-control" seems cold, old. Need: You the night, the music. You: Handsome, 24-38yo sexy, eyes mirror soul. Me: Same plus a sensual delight-eventual love. Call me. 4707.

Attractive, Handsome, European Seeks American (any race) for close relationship and sensual intimacy. Me: 28, boylsh with sincere inner spirit.
4708.

Cum Collar
Me: Professional, GWM, Vgd Lkng, 58*, hot smooth swimmer, 7.5 cut. Romantle vanilla to mod. B0, belt, tyos. You: GWM, HIV+, hot, hairy, muscular, hung, bareback top, crisco, nasty, playroom, LTR. 124 4709.

Paternal
If you can empathize with a person who
wants a father-son like relationship with a
young & slender GWM call the GWM 6',
173#, 74. Hank. 4710.

Living On The Peninsula
The State St

Sexy Man Tired of Dating GWM, 43, well built, versatile, enthuslas-tic, & HIV- seeks WM 30-45. A hand-some face & a firm ass means fun for both. You won't be disappointed. \$\to\$ 4712.

I Want A Boyfriend! GWM, 6', 165#, extremely young 40's (I have to lie!) Goodlooking, slim-muscular, smooth. Looking for similar man, under 40. Asian/Hispanic a +. 4714.

Style and Sophistication
Chinese-American, 44, (look 34), 57*,
140#, very handsome, built, looking for
very handsome W M who is not intimidat
ed by style and sophistication. Interests:
Cultural arts. 122 4715

Where Is Love
Cool, handsome, arty, GAM, 30, 6;
150#. clean-cut, unconventional, designer. Looking for Europeans w/ brown hair to date. You be under 35, employed and w/ style.
4716.

SEEKING **ADVENTURE**

Discreet Sexual Fun Friendship GWM, late 40's, 6', trim, HIV-, 165#, in LTR winot enough sex play seeks similar or single discrete person for widay sex ful & pleasure, oral, sensual J0, roaming hands, kissing, Nicely endowed wholg shawed balls, ball play.

↑ 4535.

Asian Cock Sucker Seeks white/Latino under 35. You: sexy, hung & in shape. Me: cute, smooth, & oral expert. 4536.

Compulsive Masturbator? Over 40, hung, trim, verbal, HIV-? Same: seeks playmates. Uncut, piercings, shaved are pluses. 22 4537.

Ex-Football Player Wants Asian Asian top wanted by bear-like submissive bottom. Please be dominant passionate. Bring friends there is enough for everyone.

Bear With Great Sex Organ...
Namely my brain, seeks playmate for mind-blowing erotic adventures, slow or fast, hot, sendal & creative. Honest, communicative, 32, 58°, 200#, hairy, br/hazel, goatee. You: 18-35, hwp, boylsh a plus. 122 4540.

HIV + Bttm Sks Hng Tops 2 Serve You and your buddies. Shave my crotch & boy pussy then feed both ends your cocks & balls over & over. Toys/cameras. No pain/fats-Santa Rosa.

42 4541

Tall Poz ISO Short Poz Me: 6', 164#, It blond, vers, hung 9x7, 40yo. You: 5'4", or less, slender, hung 8"+, vers, age, race, unimp. mutual plea-sure VIP.

24 4542.

Exercise Videos
They just don't seem to get the heart rate up enough...unless it's homemade.

26 yr SWM Seeks Yng 27 Under Boys that love to get sucked off. Drain your load on my face & tongue. Bring your friends, brothers. The more the better. Punks, skaters A+. 2 4545.

Like To Show Off Get Sucked We meet at a park or bathroom prefer We meet at a park or bathroom preferably in the middle of nowhere & I show up with a raging hard on in my sexy shorts & you take care of it. 4547.

Ron From Robert You called & left brief message weekend after Thanksgiving. Missed your phone number. Please try calling again, would like to get together. Robert. 22 4548.

Big Cocks Big Nuts
Want to video tape them, you get a copy.

4549

I Like To Service Orally
Handsome LM, 29, 5117, 160#, looking
for athletic guys, 25-30, in shape, W or L
w/sensitive bodies: feet, butt, cock, pits,
tits & lips. No reciprocation.

4550.

Generous Muscleman
Seeks very handsome youthful sex
buddy/steady companion, uninhibited, In
shape, versatille/bottom, dependable. Stu
dent A+, muscles A+. I'm goodlooking,
athletic, professional, 36, to busy to
crulse for partners.

↑ 4551.

Power
Masculine, 49 yo, GBM, spreads them
wide for well hung guys who fuck deep.
Come probe the depths. Let me feel the
power. 453.

Young Guys Under 25 Lay back get done by GWM, 40's, HIV-, oral expert, long, slow, & deep. Any race. 22 4554.

Hot, Uncut Boy 20-35 Wanted By handsome GWM, 35, 6', 185#, with big hard cut dick. I want to suck you, get you hot, then put you on your knees for a doggle style fuck.

2 4555.

Fuck Me. Let's Suck Each Other Seeking smooth, In shape, well hung, HIV-partner for regular sessions. Any age, I'm 45, smooth, thin, toned, young body, Your house in SF. Let's get together.

24556.

I Want An Asian Top Goodlooking, healthy, GWM, bottom 33 yrs, seeks quality top for friendship & pe haps much, much more. Serious replies only.

4557.

Big Firm Butt?

Versatile, 5'11", well built, hung big needs
Cau men, 20-30's, well built w/big hairy
bubble butt to eat & fuck.

4558.

Mostly Bottom Seeks Mainly Top Active, inventive (mostly) bottom (55, HIV+, 61*, 175#, facial hair) seeks cre-ative, versatile (mainly) top (35-65+, proportionate height/weight) for hot sex & possible relationship.

4559.

Bottom Boy Looking For Top Me: GWM, 20yo, thin, in-shape, 5·10°, 145*, br/blu, goodlooking, nice fuckable ass, likes long fucking sessions. You: GWM, 24-40, muscular, masculine, big cut dick, likes to fuck ass long hard.

Hot Hung Boy Seeks Same GWM, 59°, 150#, br/bl, in great shape, 32 yo looks younger. Seeks guys w/similal build, 22-35 yo for hot action. I'm great cocksucker will take your load. Versatile too. 22 4561.

Black Fuck Buddies Wanted
White ass for black dick. Age & shape not
important as long as you have a hard
black dick. Call me when you are ready to
fuck. 22 4562.

Handy Man 510°, 175 #, very muscular, working man, bald, beard, fat 7° cut Italian tool. Seeks masculine, built, black man for making out, mutual JO. Hung, hairy or uncut encouraged.

A 563.

Expert Cocksucker
Senior GWM, 5'7", 130 #, begs to worship
masc, verbal topman, over 40, wgt. proportion. Cauc or Asian. 24 4582.

Daddy's Boy BM, 39, 61", 165#, 9". Are you daddy's boy? You 25-?, masculine, versatile. You nasty hole, big hanging balls. Let daddy open you up. BM, Latino. East Bay.

4583.

Very Hairy Men Turn Me On
Latin & Mediterranean men are very sexy
to me. I'm 30, 511°, 180#, curly blond
hair, blue eyes. You be sexy, easy going,
passionate, masc for fun, pleasure, maybe
more.

4621.

The Tongue Wants You! Stick your hot butt in my face & get service you'll never forget. me: hot GWM, 36, 6; 160%, long bushy mustache. You: hot & ready. @ 4622.

Seattle Musclebear Needs Hosts 30vo. 6: 210# muscular masculine handsome & intelligent, blond jock moving to SF. Visiting SF in February & peodically afterwards until job found. Nee friends, fun, & inexpensive lodging. \$\oldsymbol{\Omega}\$4640.

Sexy Submissive Boy Late 20s, needs to submit to mature top daddy's heavy-handed discipline & stiff ass fucking. I'm a hot cock sucker & I want to be your bitch. 12 4623.

Hot Nasty Boys Only
UB, 25-35, GWM/GLM, good shape,
clean shaven, ready to spread 'em, 4 ta
ented hot hard top, 40, 5'6', 140#, wi
rock hard tool, long sessions A+.

4624.

Mega-erptns are an awesm sight! Shoot your personal best after incredible oral service from the local volcano maker. Specs: GWM/bottomless throat/ 6, 170#, 40s, goatee, hair-challenged, smart & nice too. Leave your lava here.

4625.

A1 Oral Service—Delivered
SF, GWM, HIV-, 6', handsome, delivers
complete oral service to mature, trim guys
who really dig getting sucked off. Your
place. No reciprocation. HIV-.

4626.

Cute Hunky Asian 32, 59", 170#, muscu

Distinguished Mentor
Schoolmaster/artist, 54*, 150#, silver
hair, golden hands, black strap by whichton
command respect. You be HIV-, smar
musc, masc, hot, good humored, body
hair, foreskin, peninsula loc, pluses. \$22
4628.

Goodlooking Daddy Seeks Boy For SM, CBT, TT, discipline & affection, 61°, 215#, 45, muscular, tattoos, leather. 4629.

May I Pleasure Your Asshole
Masculine daddy, exc shape, 47, 6,
170#, with muscles & a big one wants to
play with your ass with my fingers, fist,
toys etc. You: to 35, cute, smooth butt, In
shape. 12 4630.

I Wanna Suck Your Butt Imagine yourself laying face down, sprea eagled on my bed in total darkness with my tongue buried deep in your butt by a hot Italian, 43, 6', 190, S&P, beard.

Hot Hung & Horny
Goodlooking, Italian, 33, top, uncut,
hairy, in shape, looking for casual playmates, 3-ways, under 40, SF only. Be in
shape, looking for action & ready for a
good time. 24632.

Seeking Horny Yng Guys To Eat! 18-22 yrs, small to med build, nice clean ass for my dining pleasure. Expert J0 & oral services by GWM, 35, 5'10', 170#, brr short goatee, hairy, no recip nec. Shy inexperienced OK. 4633.

Calling All Cocks
BIWM, HIV-, no STD's ISO GWM under
35, with buddles to give me a cum bath, pop my cherry & drill my butt. Into almo everything. Break this mustang!
4634.

Muscle Worship & Massages
For school athletes or bodybuilders, 1824, WM, smooth, pro massage & JO machine, Videos, call Ricky! 4635.

"Fun Manhole"
Goodlooking man wants hungry hands to probe & pound my white, hot, inside flesh Deep, long & sensual heavy butt play preferred.

4636.

Dominant Man
WM, 35, seeking submissive male for part
time house slave position, age, looks,
unimportant. Must be masculine & willing
to serve on a regular (weekly) basis.

4637.

I Need A Hero
With a big, halry dick to suck & sit on.
brown-gray/blue, 43, 5'10', 150#. Educated, prof., interested? HIV-.

438.

Heretofore Hetero Seeks Guide 55 yrs., WSM, 64°, 230#, muscular & toned. Combo of Mr. Clean & E. Hémin way. Curious, sensuous removable teeth. Your place, N. Bay. No angst but anxiot & eager. 42 4639.

Muscular Pec Fanatic
Masculine, muscular, goodlooking, 40 yo,
578°, 170*, seeks muscled, developed pecs
for mutual intense serving, punching, powerful sucking, Age, race, looks, unimportant. Muscular pecs a must.

4641.

GWM 60's Bearded Wants to worship your black body & spir-

Seeking

Seekin

Fetishes [

Others

Bad Boy RU slim, yng, construction worker type, blue collar? Don't relate to gay life, but would like time with easy going masc, closeted GWM, 50's, heavy set. Likes butt/versatile? 2 4643.

Italian Guys!!!
I'm the guy who knows what the Italian male really wants. 22 4645.

Hung Guys Wanted!
I'm looking for guys who are hung "9" and over for fun & good times.
4646.

Afternoon Sex Buddy Wanted
Ass massage, erotic spanking. Spanking
will stimulate nerve endings you never
knew you had. Me: Attract top, 46, 65°,
±50 w, husky build. You: Attrac, GWM,
18-35, silm, smooth/mod body hair, nice
buns.

4718.

Oral Worship Are yo 8" or more? SIt back stroke you and service you. Smooth a slim a +. Me: GWM, 41. 2 4719.

Cock feeders Wanted
Energetic Bi WM oral bottom. Be HIVstr8, bi, married a plus. You supply raw
material. Pil deliver results. Discreet.
North Bay. Can travel. 4720

Very hairy cub, stache, 40, 5'10", 180#, HIV-, seeks hairy bear playmate 30-50. in and games, possible more. I'm friend versatile. (Vanilla to Kink) seeks simi-

Let's Wrestle
Muscular, handsome, GWM, seeks other
turned on by wrestling. Open to all skill
levels & fantasles. No heavy rough housling. Just good, clean sweaty fun. Go
ahead & call-you won't be disappointed.

4722.

GWM Yearns 4 J-Strap Hairy Dad With thick nipples, extra fat juice face With thick nipples, extra fat juice face slapping cock, huge mouth cramming balls and big solid hard riding face grind ing beer, butt. Yours ready and eager to serve.

4723.

Hot Hungry Ass 4 Your Pleasure Mature muscular bottom in Oakiand seeks hung tops who enjoy fucking smaller guys GWM 53*, 130*, shaved head goatee, healthy HIV+. Need men who love to use tlts & ass. 4724.

Seeking Hard & Hot Black Men ranan stud seeks black studs to service a regular basis. In Castro, late night se Wanna get off? Call me & pump off a load. 4725.

No Strings Attached GBM, 31, 617, 160#, 97, top. Seeking GWM 30-50 for afternoon fun. Not look-ing for commitment, just want to kick back and enjoy each other. Let's talk.

4726.

Craving Cum In Walnut Creek Hot WM 27 needs large loads. How muc cum can I take? All you have and more. Groups, couple, singles. I suck, slurp, swallow. Fill me up. Lip smocking good! 4727.

Wrestle Me Wrestle You Lets strip pump, sweat, strain & groan. See who cums out on top. Me: WM, 40's, tuff, halry, You: Strong & like a chal-lenge. Ethnic a plus. @ 4728.

Safe Service
Nice Lkng, healthy, clean-cut man ISO
gdlkng, young, guys to service. I always
sheath you and finish you off right.
4729.

ISO Hot Adven Top W/Exceptnl
Endowment that makes my cock rock
hard & kink, provocative ideas that stir
my balls. GWM, 36, 55°, 150°, attractive, well-bullt, hungry, adventurous bot
tom. Uncut, big balls/loads pluses.

4730.

Russian River Area
Staring my 3 day job up there but no fuck
bodies. I have I tall for that kind of fun.
Me: 34yo, good shape, masc., dark halr,
sexy and very horny. You: Open mind 34
to 44yo good shape, prefer faclah halr,
leather, grass, tattoos. No queens, no perfume please. LTR maybe. 12th 4731.

Punishment Time - Upper Haight
I like to be stark naked w/ my cock stiff
while I whip bad boys. Other arrangements by apt. 4735.

Muscle Freak
23, HM, 617, 170#, swimmer's build, boned, new to the bay area. Looking for buff muscle men for good times.

Oral Buddy Needed For "69" Play!
Sexy, regular GWM, 36, 510", 180 seekIng a GWM or GLM for mutual, hot
mouth and tongue action. Pornos, clean
hairy buts, average size dicks are what
excite me... and you?
4732.

Drive Naked
Nude behind the steering wheel. Barefoot on the accelerator. See the sights of SF butt naked. Crank up the heat in your car and let's get naked. Hot exhibitionist.
4733.

Tight Butt For You GBM, 27, 5°8°, 125 €, wants goodlooking young horny top. You must be hung, in shape & drug free. Foreigners a plus. I'm ready to please your buddy too!

4734.

Hot Sweaty Naked Butt Love
My Interest range for leather to lace;
daddy to big brother; you be in shape, ho
and totally queer. Me: 37yo, 57", 135#,
shaved head, mustache, and tattoos @
4736.

FETISHES

SF Top Fist Expert Available
For your pleasure, Talented fingers fist For your pleasure. Talented fingers fist arm. Have sling, full beard, furry chest 7X6 cut. You: clean hungry butt eager fidaytime session HIV+ OK. Clinton.

Big Dick Jock Strapped Coach Ex Jock wanted to give excellent head.
Turn-ons, halry, mustached, sweaty gym
clothes, arm pits, Jockstraps, locker room
sex, getting your clock sucked all day
watching football & drinking lots of beer.

4566.

S. Bay Asshole Play
WM, 45, goodlooking, expert ass eaten
with rim chair & toys. You be in shape
with hot hole. 4567.

HIV+ Slave Wanted
Must be masochistic. Into CBT, TT, whipping, cum, plss, feet, ass, man smells. Me: get, ass, man smells. Me: get, 45, halty chest, mustache. You: under 30, smooth, in shape, slave attitude! 12 4568.

On Your Knees Boy!
BI WM, HIV-, 45, blg thick, uncut, top needs boy(s) to take care of me. I'm demanding, tough, verbal, but sane. Must worship my whole body. WS/Feet etc.
4569.

Porn 0 Watcher Wanted
I like jacking off with another man while
watching porno movies & stroking some
guys cock. If really Interested. Call!!!

Total Latex Action
Looking to connect with other guys Into
total latex action. Let's gear up & plat
head to toe latex including hoods, gas
masks, CB sheaths, etc. Cuddling, vanilla
or kink as long as it's in total latex. I have
the gear and you should too.

4571.

Nipple Worship
My tits on my hairy chest are always
hard...please suck and lick them...don't
stop! Fm cute, handsome, youthful 40,
bearish, 59", 215#.
4572. Big Bear Does Oral Tricks For

older, dominant, in shape guys with six inches or more. Hear this healthy, HIV + bear beg for your thick throat biscuit. Bear laps your cream. Good bear! 22 4573. Whipped & Creamed
GWM, 41yo, tall, goodlooking, well
dressed ISO others Into food for messy
punishment, humiliation, Glevatake, pies
eggs, oatmeal, water, suits, uniforms,
bondage, spanking, humor, Imagination
A+, 82 4574.

Man W/Toe Ring Sks Foot Partner Lifelong excitement looking at/fantasizi about men's barefeet. Masculine, good-looking, E. Bay GWM, 5°P, 140#, tan moderately hairy, HIV-, loves reciproca kissing, licking, massaging barefeet, sa J/O. Further friendship possible. 😭 4652.

Hispanic Chub Seeks Hot Top GHM, 28yo, 300#, 6'17, smooth, hand-some looking for GHM or GWM under 4 who has a fetish for big boys. Me: a hot, oral, bottom, let's hook up! 4588.

It's July 4th in My Head Smelling lick/eating hot men;s feces. You have short hair, nice body, masc good looks, stash or goatee. reciprocal, HIV-, mature & no speed. I'm hot & wear cop uniforms, leather, levis, jocks.

4589.

Medical Top Sought
By btm, I have operating room, table, enema gear, restraints, caths, NG tubes, sounds, rubber & more. HIV., NS, 59, 178#, clean cut, 40's, very discreet.

Have A Foot Or Leg Injury?
Are you In a cast, brace, bandages, use crutches or a wheelchair, or just have a big swollen foot? Age/race unimportant. GAM, 158#, 578°, goodlooking, workout, 23 yr old. 124 4595.

Flex Your Muscles WM, late 405, seeks muscular guy of any size Into flexing, posling & beling admired. Love baseball, biceps, hot pecs. Especially seek very muscular Aslan. 496.

John
Couldn't be at Starbucks Thur 1/16 @
6:30. Would like to meet you, Clinton.

Sole Man GBM wants action from tall, well formed angularios & sucks, bare, legs. Worship suck etc. esp sheer socks. 4649.

Feet Dark Socks And More Goodlooking Latino, 5'11*, 190#, dark features, HIV-, would like to meet Latinos or Whites NS/ND, 24-30, into foot fetish.

Raunchy Young Studs
Dominant, under 30, cute, sexy, wantin
to get serviced then get real raunchy for
W/S to...share some fantasles with me,
bring a buddy?
4651.

Endurance Bondage & Torture GWM, 5:10r, 175#, solid, brn/brn, 40 ISO serious and reliable guys any race/age for endurance, bondage, fantasy role playing, torture. Outdoor scenes possible. Top or bottom.

4738.

Into Shaving?
I'm 43, br, bl, 170#, 5'10", very hairy and would like to try being completely shaved.
I need a shaver! 44739.

Are You Man Enough To Cry? In shape sadistlc tops, both 35, seek masochistlc muscle bottom, 25-45. Must endure heavy whipping, CBT, WS, tlt and ass play. Hairy a+. 24740.

Body Btfl Bubble Butt & Boots You pose, I kneel. You rub the seat of you 501's in my face. I lick your boots. Play safe, have fun, profit from experience.

Tit Pig Wanted Mutual, heavy duty, hot, 215#, 61", very muscular, 46" chest, goatee, leather, aroma, etc. Muscles a plus but not necessary, inshape is.

4742.

Bondage And Discipline Sought By honest, masculine, good looking, experienced bottom. Plays sober, seriously and safe. Discretion required and reciprocated. 4744.

Bare Assed Spanking
Best bare assed spanking in SF for boys
(over 18) to 35. I am Daddy bear, 6',
285#, experienced, safe.

4745.

COUPLES

Ruff Or EZ
Gdikng GWM couple, 40's, HIV+, w/fa-Gdikng GWM couple, 40's, HIV+, wit clal hair seeks adventurous individual(for hot times in our hot tub & or sling. Top, bottom, versatile. 22 4577.

Sex Toy For Hot Glkg Couple
Versatile handsome, Aslan hunk, 35, with
beautiful muscular body, tight smooth
jock ass wants to tease you, please you.
Want me to ride both of you? Want me to
milk your dicks? or should we make roast
beef sandwiches for our picnic? 12 4653.

Masculine In-Shape Couples
31 year old, GWM, 587, 165#, Ilghtly
hairy, handsome, gym-toned, br hair/eyes,
clean cut, seeks 3-ways with adventure-some couples. White/Latino, 25-40, HIV-,
versatile preferred.

4654.

WMC Seeks Asian Gdlkng GWC, 40's, tall Texans, looking for Asian buddles for fun. 2 4655.

Bear Doubles His Fun And Yours
I open my throat to accept you, his hands
guide my skull forward, down. You shoot
You switch. He shoots. And switch again'
Excellent service orally by big bear, 40,
w/ HIV+, healthy. 4746

OTHER

Pose Nude For A Free Drawing.
No experience needed just get naked. I'
draw your muscled body In charcoal. You
get drawings In exchange for modeling.
Any pose, yes any pose.
4575.

Erotic Spirituality Shaman
Teacher, mentor, or partner sought for
deep psyche and soul work, visions and
heart wisdom through the body and sexual
healing. Massage, breathing, yoga, erotic
ritual and initiation dream journeying.

4576.

John Cinken Where Are You?
Desperately seeking my friend. If you know where he is please call Ron. Any-time. Last seen in Sacramento. 4590.

Exchange Massage For...
Driving lessons. Licensed, responsible driver needs more practice driving standard transmission in exchange I offer terrific body work, certified. Also willing to trade massage for massage.

4598.

Insatiable, Party/Play Pig Boy 35 yo (looks mid-20's) bl/bl, mustache GWM seeks extensive play with aggir sively dominant topmen. Leather/Latino/Uncut A+. 2 4656.

Country Dads Seek Obedient Son 18-40, affectionate, slender, masculine. 18-40, affectionate, slender, masculine, HIV-, NS/NO/NA. Willing to please. Learn sensual massage & all things erotic Limits respected. Room & board for part time gardening. Near Santa Rosa.

Gay Artists!! I'm interested in finding other gay artists & their friends. We can get together for fun & socializing.

4558.

Fine Dinning, Anyone?
Cute, GAM, 33yr, 510*, looking for friends to go eat restaurants like Stars, Mass's on a regular basis. Be GM under 43, and have money to play for your share of the bill. 24747.

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Tired tome-ettes

by Deborah Peifer

Costa Brava by Marta Balletbo-Coll; Naiad, \$11.95

Meeting Magdalene by Marilyn Freeman; Naiad, \$11.95

ovelization. Is there an uglier word in English? OK, wind chill is a hideous phrase, and any number of racist, phrase, and any number of racist, sexist and homophobic comments are more grossly offensive, but novelization — ugh. Naiad's first offerings for the new year include two such bastard hybrids, and they both accurately reflect the limitations of the form.

Let me say that I enjoyed Marta Balletbo-Coll's film, Costa Brava, very much. It is a quirky, funny and ultimately touching look at art and artists and love.

look at art and artists and love.
Unfortunately, the novelization
adds nothing to the film, and subtracts a great deal.
Anna pays the rent as a tour

comic

J.A. FLUDD Roberts GREGORY

guide in Barcelona while she at-tempts to write and then find a way to perform her monologue. When Montserrat takes one of When Montserrat takes one of Anna's tours, love is on the way. Balletbo-Coll used reaction shots and cross-cutting between "real life" and the monologue to comment wryly on the vagaries of love and art. Unfortunately, she has found no way to re-create in words what worked so beautifully on the screen. Rather, she is reduced to describing, in too many words (not an easy thing to do when your text is only 125 pages long), the scenes from the movie. See the film, but skip this awful excuse for a powel excuse for a novel.

Take a 'Meeting'

I did not see Meeting Magda-lene, the movie, but having read Meeting Magdalene, the short novel, I'm glad I missed it. Mag-dalene is an apparently irresistible woman who captures the heart of every female she meets. In no way does Marilyn Freeman convince

INCLUDED

me of that notion. Maybe it worked bet-ter on the silver screen.

Freeman crams five self-described "short novels" into 132 pages, which works out to 26.4 pages per story. Kind of makes you long for the good old days when longer was necessarily better. Freeman is not so skilled a writer that she is able to compress tons of meaning into ounces of text. Instead, she offers text. Instead, she offers outlines of plots and the merest whispers of emotion. Of character, she provides even less. The result is neither interesting nor particularly readable. Perhaps the author confused the novel she planned to publish with a batch of TV sitcom story treatments.

Nagdalene BY MARTA BALDETBO-COL Marilyn Freeman

Finally, I think it only fair to raise the question of finances. Specifically, how can Naiad Press

tome-ettes? At 125 and 132 pages, the cost works out to a dime a page — pretty pricey for paperbacks, don't you know. ▼

Stick figures

by Jerry Metzker

n Edwin Sanchez's Trafficking in Broken Hearts, currently up at the New Conservatory The-atre, Papo (Phillip A. Barragan) plays an aging hustler who finds himself attracted to two men, a naive young lawyer (Aaron Bruce) naive young lawyer (Aaron Bruce) just coming to terms with his homosexuality, and a young man (Gavin Haag) recently checked out of a mental hospital. The three characters are as different as night and day, and while these differences of character and class are meant to provide the show's dramatic thrust, they are also what makes the work suspect, as one continually wonders how Papo could fall in love with such divergent characters. As the script provides no clear answers, it's easy to

vides no clear answers, it's easy to check out.

Sketchy at best, Trafficking is made even more inscrutable by Arturo Catricala's direction, which emphasizes only what is likable about the characters. True, all that negative real stuff may be hard to manage dramatically, but that's the gist of real life, which is presumably what drama is all about. Everything else is just cartoons. W Everything else is just cartoons.

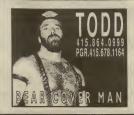


Aaron Brace and Phillip Barragan in Trafficking in Broken Hearts

Trafficking in Broken Hearts runs through March 15 at the New Conservatory Theatre. Call 861-8972 for tickets and information.

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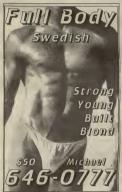
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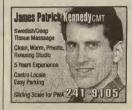
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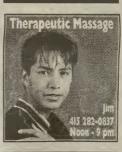


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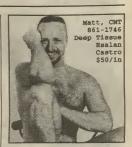


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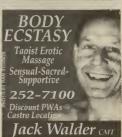
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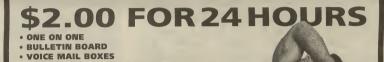
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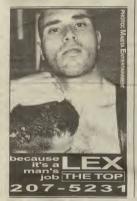
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